

## Orrin Hatch dies

Longtime Republican senator from Utah who retired in 2019 was 88. **News, Page 2**

## Macron reelected

French president easily beats far-right opponent Marine Le Pen. **News, Page 4**

## Yankees sweep

Gerrit Cole shuts down Guardians in 10-2 victory to wrap up series. **Sports, Page 1**

## Seasonable



A mix of clouds and sun with a high of 63. **Sports, Page 6**

# Hartford Courant

VOLUME CLXXXVI

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MONDAY, APRIL 25, 2022

## East Hartford in midst of turnaround?

Mayor says string of new developments bring 'different vibe'

By Don Stacom

Hartford Courant

Looking to reverse decades of stagnation, East Hartford has embarked on an ambitious revitalization plan that encompasses hundreds of new apartments, massive redevelopment of Rentschler Field and the foundation for townwide 10-gig fiber optic internet service.

The 25-point plan includes

millions of dollars of city investment in repairing deteriorated roads, aiding local business expansion, upgrading store facades in run-down retail plazas and revitalizing shuttered town buildings and schools.

In the past seven months alone, developers have reached a deal to build 360 apartments on the old Showcase Cinema site, Goodwin University and the state have launched plans for a \$4.5 million public marina along the Connecticut River and National Development announced plans for two mega-warehouses on the Rentschler Field property.

That's a hefty amount of new

business for the city of 50,000 that has largely languished in recent decades. And Mayor Michael Walsh contends that this is only the start.

"2022 is starting to look like a very special year for East Hartford," Walsh told The Courant on Wednesday. "I'm a firm believer that East Hartford's glass is half full, not half empty. Residents are starting to feel a different vibe."

Walsh's administration this year is starting on many of the 25 elements of the turnaround plan, dubbed the East Hartford Control Tower in a nod to its aerospace heritage.

*Turn to East Hartford, Page 3*



An artist's rendering of the apartment complex planned for the former Showcase Cinema site in East Hartford. **CITY OF EAST HARTFORD**

### WAR IN UKRAINE

## Zelenskyy meets with US officials

Aide: Blinken, Austin in Kyiv while Russians continue assault in east

By David Keyton  
Associated Press

KYIV, Ukraine — The U.S. secretaries of state and defense met Sunday night with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy in the highest-level visit to the war-torn country's capital by an American delegation since the start of Russia's invasion.

The meeting with U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken and U.S. Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin was confirmed by presidential adviser Oleksiy Arestovych.

It came as Ukraine pressed the West for more powerful weapons against Russia's campaign in the Donbas region of eastern Ukraine, where Moscow's forces sought to dislodge the last Ukrainian troops in the battered port of Mariupol.

"Yes, they're meeting with the president. Let's hope something will be decided on further help," Arestovych said in a televised interview.

Before the session, Zelenskyy said he was looking for the Americans to produce results, both in arms and security guarantees.

Zelenskyy's last face-to-face meeting with a top U.S. official was Feb. 19 in Munich with Vice President Kamala Harris, five days before Russia's invasion. While the West has funneled military equipment to Ukraine, Zelenskyy has stressed repeatedly that his country needs more heavy weapons, including long-range air defense systems and warplanes.

Sunday's meeting took place as Ukrainians and Russians observed Orthodox Easter, when the faithful celebrate the resurrection of Jesus. Speaking from Kyiv's ancient St. Sophia Cathedral, Zelenskyy, who is Jewish, highlighted its significance to a nation wracked by war.

"The great holiday today gives us great hope and unwavering faith that light will overcome

*Turn to Zelenskyy, Page 2*



Ta'u Pupu'a, a former NFL player, rehearses for his role as Canio in Opera Connecticut's "Pagliacci" at the Asylum Hill Congregational Church in Hartford on Wednesday. Pupu'a will appear in the production at the Hoffman Auditorium at the University of Saint Joseph on Friday and Sunday. **PHOTOS BY CLOE POISSON/SPECIAL TO THE COURANT**

## Trading pigskin for 'Pagliacci'

How a former Belichick draft pick went to Juilliard and now Opera Connecticut

By Dom Amore | Hartford Courant

Ta'u Pupu'a looked around Rice-Eccles Stadium and saw stern-faced men with notebooks and stopwatches, cones laid out on the field. He saw the better-known football players from better-known schools near Salt Lake City, the University of Utah and Brigham Young, but he knew he belonged. "Coming from Weber State and in my mind, I knew I was better than them," he said. "When I got there I had that mentality."

Then he ran his 40-yard dash in 4.6 seconds — pretty good for a 290-pound defensive lineman. "They couldn't believe it, so I ran it again and I put down 4.58."

The NFL coaches preparing for the 1995 draft were very interested in this tall, powerful kid. At the end of the day, one of them took Pupu'a aside and, in his now familiar monotone, told him, "Things are going to start happening."

It was Bill Belichick, then with the Cleveland Browns.

A few weeks later, Pupu'a, the youngest of nine children, dropped off his parents at church in Salt Lake City. The family had one car. When he got home,

*Turn to Pagliacci, Page 3*

## Distilling an expansion in downtown Hartford

Hartford Flavor sees big future on Pratt: 'It's really going to jump'

By Kenneth R. Gosselin  
Hartford Courant

HARTFORD — Eight years ago, Tom and Lelaneia Dubay tapped into the momentum building behind a revitalization in Hartford, launching their liqueur and vodka distillery, Hartford Flavor Co., on Arbor Street in the Parkville neighborhood.

Now, as the city seeks to recapture the energy sapped by the

pandemic, the Dubays again want to play a part, this time with their most ambitious expansion to date: a cocktail parlor in the middle of downtown on Pratt Street.

"I hope we really have the Roaring '20s," Lelaneia Dubay says. "We look forward to it very much, to be a part of it."

The Dubays envision bringing their organic, all-natural spirits to a long-shuttered restaurant space at 54 Pratt St., combining cocktails mixed from their liqueurs and vodkas with a light, farm-to-table menu of charcuterie boards,

*Turn to Expansion, Page 3*

## Black Lives Matter demonstration

A Black Lives Matter rally and march in the North End of Hartford on Sunday afternoon was a push back against alleged moves by hate group into the state. **CONNECTICUT, PAGE 1**

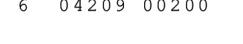
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Lelaneia Dubay makes a specialty cocktail called "Back in the Saddle" at Hartford Flavor Co. The liqueur and vodka distiller in Hartford's Parkville neighborhood plans to open the Hartford Flavor Cocktail Parlour at 54 Pratt St. later this year. **JESSICA HILL/SPECIAL TO THE COURANT**

**FROM PAGE ONE****ORRIN HATCH** 1934-2022

# Longest-serving GOP senator also teamed with Democrats

**By Lindsay Whitehurst**  
Associated Press

SALT LAKE CITY — Orrin Hatch, the longest-serving Republican senator in history who was a fixture in Utah politics for more than four decades, died at age 88.

His death was announced Saturday in a statement from his foundation, which did not specify a cause.

A staunch conservative on most economic and social issues, he also teamed with Democrats several times during his long career on issues ranging from stem cell research to rights for people with disabilities to expanding children's health insurance.

Hatch also championed GOP issues like abortion limits and helped shape the U.S. Supreme Court, including defending Justice Clarence Thomas against sexual harassment allegations during confirmation hearings.

He later became an ally of Republican President Donald Trump, using his role as chairman of the Senate Finance Committee to get a major rewrite of the U.S. tax codes to the president's desk. In return, Trump helped Hatch deliver on a key issue for Republicans in Utah with a contentious move to drastically downsize two national monuments that had been declared by past presidents.

Hatch retired in 2019. Though Trump had encouraged him to run again, Hatch stepped aside and encouraged Republican Mitt Romney, a critic of the former president, to run to replace him.

"Few men have made their mark on the Senate as he did," Romney wrote in a tribute, praising Hatch's "vision and legislative accomplishment."

Senate Minority leader



U.S. Sen. Orrin Hatch waves at members of the Utah House during a visit to the State Capitol. Hatch, a longtime fixture in Utah politics, died Saturday at 88. **RICK BOWMER/AP** 2018

Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., praised Hatch's legislative acumen.

"Orrin's decades of leadership drove an unending catalog of major legislative accomplishments and landmark confirmations," McConnell said in a statement. "He entered the Senate as a young principled conservative in the 1970s when the modern conservative movement was in its infancy. He held to his principles his whole career."

Hatch came to the Senate after a 1976 election win and went on to become the longest-serving senator in Utah history, winning a seventh term in 2012.

In 1991, he became known as one of Thomas' most vocal defenders against sexual harassment allegations from law professor Anita Hill. Hatch read aloud at the confirmation hearings from "The Exorcist," and he suggested that Hill stole details from the book.

While unquestionably conservative, there were

times Hatch differed from many of his conservative colleagues — including then-President George W. Bush when Hatch pushed for federal funding of embryonic stem cell research.

In 1997, Hatch joined Sen. Edward Kennedy, D-Mass., in sponsoring a \$24 billion program for states to provide health insurance to the children of low-income parents who don't qualify for Medicaid.

"He exemplified a generation of lawmakers brought up on the principles of comity and compromise, and he embodied those principles better than anyone," said Hatch Foundation chairman A. Scott Anderson in a statement. "In a nation divided, Orrin Hatch helped show us a better way by forging meaningful friendships on both sides of the aisle. Today, more than ever, we would do well to follow his example."

Hatch is survived by his wife, Elaine, and their six children.

## Zelenskyy

*from Page 1*  
darkness, good will overcome evil, life will overcome death, and therefore Ukraine will surely win!" he said.

But in the northern village of Ivanivka, where Russian tanks still littered the roads, Olena Kopty said "the Easter holiday doesn't bring any joy. I'm crying a lot. We cannot forget how we lived."

The Russian military reported hitting 423 Ukrainian targets overnight, including fortified positions and troop concentrations, while its warplanes destroyed 26 Ukrainian military sites, including an explosives factory and several artillery depots.

Two girls, aged 5 and 14, died in shelling in the town of Ocheretyne, Ukraine's national police said.

Russian forces launched fresh airstrikes on a Mariupol steel plant where an estimated 1,000 civilians are sheltering along with about 2,000 Ukrainian fighters. The Azovstal steel mill where the defenders are holed up is the last corner of resistance in the city, otherwise occupied by the Russians.

Zelenskyy said he stressed the need to evac-

uate civilians from Mariupol, including from the steel plant, in a Sunday call with Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, who is scheduled to speak later with Russian leader Vladimir Putin.

Arestovych, the Zelenskyy adviser, said Ukraine has proposed talks with Russia next to the mill. Arestovych said on the Telegram messaging app that Russia has not responded to the proposal that would include establishing humanitarian corridors and the exchange of Russian war prisoners for the fighters still in the plant.

Ukrainian Deputy Prime Minister Iryna Vereshchuk said the government would try to organize an evacuation again Monday. She called for U.N. Secretary-General António Guterres, who is scheduled to travel to Moscow before visiting Kyiv, to demand a cease-fire and open up humanitarian corridors.

Mariupol has endured fierce fighting since the start of the war due to its location on the Sea of Azov. Its capture would deprive Ukraine of a vital port, free up Russian troops to fight elsewhere and allow Moscow to establish a land corridor to the Crimean Peninsula, which it seized

from Ukraine in 2014.

More than 100,000 people — down from a prewar population of about 430,000 — are believed to remain in Mariupol with scant food, water or heat. Ukrainian authorities estimate over 20,000 civilians have been killed. Recent satellite images showed what appeared to be mass graves near Mariupol.

Mykhailo Podolyak, another presidential adviser, tweeted that the Russian military was attacking the plant with heavy bombs and artillery while accumulating forces and equipment for a direct assault.

Zelenskyy on Saturday accused Russians of war crimes by killing civilians and of setting up "filtration camps" near Mariupol. He said the Ukrainians — many of them children — are then sent to areas under Russian occupation or to Russia itself.

While the claims could not be independently verified, they were repeated by Ukrainian lawmaker Yevheniya Kravchuk on ABC's "This Week."

"It's sort of something that can't be happening in the 21st century," she said.

*The New York Times contributed.*



A priest gives blessings to Ukrainian soldiers while observing Orthodox Easter at the Church of St. Andrew on Sunday in Bucha, Ukraine. The church grounds were the site of mass graves of people killed during the Russian occupation of the town. **JOHN MOORE/GETTY**

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**LOTTERY**

Sunday, April 24

**PLAY3 DAY**

**0 4 5 WB: 7**

**PLAY4 DAY**

**6 6 0 5 WB: 9**

The late lotto numbers were not drawn in time for this edition. For results, please visit [courant.com/lottery](http://courant.com/).

**SATURDAY'S LATE NUMBERS****PLAY3 NIGHT**

**1 0 7 WB: 9**

**PLAY4 NIGHT**

**5 5 5 1 WB: 6**

**CASH 5**

**7 16 18 22 26**

**LUCKY FOR LIFE**

**2 29 30 37 42 LB: 14**

**POWERBALL**

**10 39 47 49 56 PB: 8 PP: 3**

**Tuesday's est. Lotto jackpot: \$2 million**

**Tuesday's est. Mega Millions jackpot:**

**\$31 million**

**Wednesday's est. Powerball jackpot:**

**\$421 million**



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## FROM PAGE ONE

### East Hartford

from Page 1

In a presentation to the town earlier this year, Walsh acknowledged that it's unlikely all 25 initiatives will succeed.

"They are real. They are tangible. But some of them may not happen because the math does not work," he said. "Some will invariably fall by the wayside."

Still, he sees the town coming through with the highest priorities, including what he considers the most important: redevelopment of the decrepit and largely vacant Silver Lane Plaza.

"Silver Lane Plaza has been the same condition for the better part of 30 years. The town needs to buy it if there's any hope of turning that area around," Walsh said. "This has to come to an end. It's a scar on our community — I've called it a cancer publicly."

East Hartford Venture LLC bought the 110,000-square-foot plaza for \$3.5 million in 2016, and the city is offering the full

appraised value of \$4.6 million, Walsh said. But the owner won't return phone calls. East Hartford wants to acquire it and relocate remaining tenants that have leases, then demolish the worn buildings and begin seeking developers to build something new.

"Our timeline, which is reasonable and should be expected, is (acquisition) by Sept. 30," Walsh said.

The city has more than \$9 million in state grants for this initiative, which it said is essential to any broad-based revitalization of Silver Lane.

National Development has an option to build two mega-warehouses and two high-tech research and development buildings on the former Rentschler Field, and city boards have given numerous go-aheads so far.

The company still requires wetlands and site plan approval to go forward, but East Hartford leaders are optimistic that construction can start as soon as October. Developers predict the complex will create 1,800 to 2,000 jobs, and produce roughly \$4 million a year in new taxes.

"The goal has been for 30 years to develop Rentschler Field. This is a tangible version that feels real," Walsh said earlier this year. "The three things this brings are e-commerce, jobs and — unfortunately — truck traffic."

SiFi Networks this spring plans to start digging trenches for new fiber optic lines beneath East Hartford's streets that various providers can use to offer ultra-high-speed internet.

"East Hartford has been working on this for eight years. It will distinguish us from every one of the other 168 communities in Connecticut," Walsh said.

That will make the city more attractive to existing employers like Pratt and Whitney, Goodwin University and the Connecticut Center for Advanced Technology, and will offer far better service for homeowners, Walsh said.

The 10 Gbps network will cost \$40 million, covered entirely by SiFi.

Jasko Zelman Partnership is building 360 market-rate apartments on the site of the former Showcase Cinemas, a key property along the most barren stretch of Silver Lane.

Amenities are expected to include a clubhouse, gym and outdoor pool.

East Hartford in February authorized more than \$15 million in long-term tax abatements for the project, a decision that most town council members agreed was a solid investment because there had been little other interest in the abandoned multiplex.

Developers expect to construct seven three- and four-story buildings with one-, two- and three-bedroom apartments.

"Market-rate housing is necessary to move this community forward by raising incomes," Walsh told residents in January, adding that the \$81 million project also sets the stage for future development.

The city's plan also includes spending more than \$20 million of bond funds to step up the pace of road repaving, completing the \$4 million renovation of the Wickham Library, establishing a business development fund to assist local companies that suffered during the pandemic, renovating the North End Community Center and Veterans Memorial Clubhouse and more.

### Pagliacci

from Page 1

his brother-in-law was waiting outside, motioning furiously for him to come inside quickly. No one was watching the NFL draft — the family had no TV — but there was a phone call.

"The Cleveland Browns had called. 'Congratulations, you've been drafted,'" Pupu'a recalled. "They called back five minutes later. I didn't know what to do, how to act."

A dozen years later after Pupu'a saw his football dreams shattered by a series of injuries, he found himself in another arena filled with über-talented people and discerning evaluators, auditioning for The Juilliard School.

He was given a month to learn five arias and a monologue in several languages, the 40-yard dash or bench press for aspiring opera singers.

"I was 32," he said. "When the others were learning their solfège and their do-re-mi's, I was trying to kill quarterbacks. I had to play catch-up."

A month after his audition, he got a phone call. He was one of four to get in, full scholarship.

"I called up my father who didn't really knew what Juilliard was and told him and he said, 'Oh, I'm so happy for you, son. I'm glad you decided to go back to school,'" Pupu'a said. "Then I called my brother who knows everything and told him, 'Tippy, I just got into Juilliard.' He said, 'Let me call you back.' Five minutes later, my father called and said, 'Oh, my God, your brother just told me what Juilliard is!'"

Years of hard work, doubt and soul searching came before and between those triumphant days, but Ta'u Pupu'a is now an internationally known opera star, tenor who is set to perform with Opera Connecticut in "Prelude, Prologue, Pagliacci," a new twist on Leoncavallo's masterwork at the University of Saint Joseph's Hoffman Auditorium, Friday at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 2:30 p.m.

"The charisma of someone who has the skills to excel in a professional sport and a professional performing art," said Doris Lang Kosloff, artistic director of Opera Connecticut since 2005. "It sounds impossible."

### Act I: One of his boys

Long before there was football, Pupu'a's life was filled with music.

"In my culture, the Polynesian people, we are people that just love music," he said. "I can remember when I was about 5 years old and my grandfather would sit down with a ukulele or a guitar, and everybody would sit around and start playing, and singing about homeland. With the little kids I would be running in and out, and he would call kids over and we would start singing and harmonizing."

The family moved to Utah from Tonga in the South Pacific when Pupu'a was about 5.



Ta'u Pupu'a, as Canio, rehearses a scene where he murders his wife, Nedda, played by Zhanna Alkhazova, in Opera Connecticut's "Pagliacci" at the Asylum Hill Congregational Church in Hartford on Wednesday. CLOE POISSON/SPECIAL TO THE COURANT

Football coaches spotted him and a cousin in elementary school, noting their size, and encouraged him to try out.

"We didn't know what football was," he said. "We knew what rugby was."

His parents consented. At age 9, he became a football player while also singing in the school choir.

"Even in junior high, I was singing in the choir and playing [youth football]," Pupu'a said. "The choir teacher thought I had a voice and wanted me to enter a competition, and I made it to states. All through school, I was the football player who sings in the choir. Because football players don't sing in choirs, I remember keeping that as quiet as possible."

After Highland High School, Pupu'a moved on to Weber State, a Division I program in the Big Sky Conference. He majored in music while playing football. He grew to 6 foot 5 and 290 pounds and played in the middle of the defensive line, usually requiring double- and triple-teaming to contain him.

He and two teammates were invited to the University of Utah's stadium for the pro day tryouts. The impression he made stuck with Belichick, who selected Pupu'a in the fifth round, pick No. 136. He reported to Browns camp in Ohio and was looking good to make the roster when he felt a foot crunch in a preseason game against the Cardinals.

"When it happened, I just remember thinking, 'Oh, my God,'" he said. "I had never been injured in college, and all the hopes and dreams. What's going to happen now? It's like a race horse. When the horse gets injured, what do you do with him?"

"... But Bill Belichick, if you're one of his boys, a person he drafted, he's going to stand behind you. And so they tried to get me back, and he said, 'You can come back.'"

By the time Pupu'a recovered, the Browns had moved to Baltimore and Belichick was fired. Pupu'a got re-injured and drove home

alone from Maryland to Utah. His agent negotiated an injury settlement, then Belichick called.

The plan was for Pupu'a to get healthy, play a season in Canada, then return for a chance with Belichick, now with the Jets. Then he got hurt again and began thinking about changing careers. He got one more chance with the Philadelphia Eagles, but after a day in camp, Pupu'a decided football just wasn't in the cards.

"I believe everybody has a calling in life," he said. "And I asked myself, 'What is my calling in life?' And I looked up, opened the blinds, looked up at the sky and asked that question. This voice came into me and said, 'Step left, move forward.'"

### Act II: Waiting for his chance

Pupu'a settled in New York. During his football career, he was taught to "surround yourself with what you want." He walked into the first restaurant he saw, O'Neal's, and applied for a job as host. When he'd leave work, the first thing he'd see when he walked out the door was Juilliard.

"I just remembered in my football playbook, you have to know your opponent," Pupu'a said. "You have to study him. You talk about taking a humble pill. After playing in front of 90,000 people, all of sudden you're working at a restaurant. I didn't care. In football, you watch your opponent and learned from them, and I knew all these great singers, Plácido Domingo, and Pavarotti, were going to come in and eat and I could study them."

The opera stars came and went, and Pupu'a studied. What did they eat? How much, if any, did they drink? How did they carry themselves. Meanwhile, he would sing with small companies in the city.

One day at an autograph signing near Lincoln Center, he met Kiri Te Kanawa, the great lyric soprano from New Zealand. She asked Pupu'a what he was doing there. What

did he do? "I'm a tenor," he told her.

"Is anyone helping you?" she asked.

Madame Kiri wanted to know more, hear more, and when she did, she arranged for the hierarchy at Juilliard to hear Pupu'a. Since graduating in 2010, he has been performing all over the world.

### Pagliacci'

"*Pagliacci*," or "Clowns," was written by Ruggero Leoncavallo and premiered in 1892. It tells the story of Canio, the head of a performing troupe, his young wife, Nedda, and her lover, Silvio. In the climactic scene, Canio arrives onstage, drunk and in a jealous rage, to confront and eventually stab Nedda and Silvio in front of an audience that first thinks it is part of the act, and is then horrified. *Canio* is a signature role for tenors, including Enrico Caruso, whose haunting recording of the aria *Vesti la Giubba* at the turn of the 20th Century is iconic.

For this performance, Lang Kosloff has written a new prelude, which adds a layer to the story in English in which characters are auditioned for the troupe and Canio is bi-polar and has not taken his medication.

"I want people to see a story within a story, within a story," she said.

She has worked with Pupu'a before. He performed *Tosca* with Opera Connecticut in 2015.

"[What is special] is the authenticity of who he becomes, how he actually becomes the character," Lang Kosloff said. "The big stars are as different from each other as we are all different from each other, but Tu'a is somebody who really cares about the product, not just about him. So he is willing to do whatever makes a better product for the audience, not for himself."

Pupu'a has slimmed down from his football days, but is still imposing as Canio, slamming the table and sending props flying.

"He is such a humble colleague," said Zhanna Alkhazova, who plays opposite Pupu'a as Nedda. "For a person with his talent, the caliber of his talent, I would say that's unique."

Though his football days are far behind, there are always analogies to show similarities between the first and second acts of Pupu'a's life. He draws upon personal experiences to powerfully project the pain and rage his character is feeling.

"I'm not copying a particular tenor," Pupu'a said as a rehearsal wrapped up in Hartford last week. "I'm just getting ideas, just like watching football films. I find in opera that a lot of times the way you can bring a character to life is by life experience itself, disappointment, death in the family, love. If it's not real, audiences can tell. If you send the love of that character out to the audience, it's like playing football, if you send out the love for playing football, they get it."

For tickets (adults \$50, students \$25, children under 12 \$20) and information, go to [www.operaconnecticut.org](http://www.operaconnecticut.org).

Dom Amore can be reached at [damore@courant.com](mailto:damore@courant.com).

### Expansion

from Page 1

salads and, most likely, personal-size pizzas.

In the back of the restaurant, the couple hopes to create a parlor with an art deco atmosphere, eclectic furniture around a gas fireplace. The area would encourage parlor games — gin rummy and other card and board games — and as a place to just "hang out."

"We fit into a unique niche, but when you peel it back, we're going to have fantastic cocktails and really fresh foods," Tom Dubay said.

The Dubays hope to open later this year or early in 2023. The couple has signed a letter of intent, but they are still negotiating a lease with landlord Northland Investment Corp.

If that comes together, the Dubays expect to apply for funding from the city's Hart Lift storefront revitalization program, which already has awarded \$2.5 million in matching grants to entrepreneurs across the city.

The renovation of the former, short-lived Rio Grill and Bar space is likely to run into the "six figures, but not seven," Tom Dubay said. Since the space was a restaurant, "the bones are kind of there."

The storefront program, part of the city's COVID-19 relief funding, is "able to make it happen for us, without question," Lelania Dubay said. "Without it, we probably wouldn't be able to do it. It's a blessing."

Those grants are already helping four businesses open on Pratt: a high-end sneaker store, a bakery, a bar with live music and a sports bar.

The Hartford Flavor Cocktail Parlour would be yet another sign of revitalization along Pratt, which runs between Main and Trumbull streets.

Known for its attractive 19th-century



Tom Dubay, chief executive of the Hartford Flavor Co., said with the combination of office space conversion to apartments along downtown Hartford's Pratt Street, plus storefront revitalization, the street is "just going to really jump."

COURT FILE PHOTO

architecture and brick-paved street, Pratt, by most accounts, has operated short of its potential for decades. But a recent push lead by conversion of outdated office space into apartments on the south side of the street is seeking to change that.

The over-arching plan is to make Pratt Street a destination that will draw people into the city to help shift the base of patrons for local businesses, especially as fewer office workers — a longtime mainstay — come into the city five days a week.

The Dubays' cocktail parlor, the Bloom Bake Shop and Rundown sneaker shop are on the north side of street, largely controlled by Northland, where storefronts have been vacant for years. The pick-up in leasing on that side of Pratt is encouraging to city and chamber officials eager to chart a new future for Pratt.

Northland, of Newton, Mass., declined to comment for this story.

"With what is going on on the south side of the street, it's pretty exciting," Tom Dubay

said. "And when you put it all together, it's just going to really jump."

### 'A clean, delicious cocktail'

Lelania Dubay had made batches of cranberry liqueur at home for years. But when she started experiencing dietary sensitivity to gluten and certain alcohols and chemicals, she went back to her kitchen. There, she created a lavender version of her liqueur using fresh cuttings from her garden.

Today, Hartford Flavor now produces and distributes 11 all-natural liqueurs — cucumber, rose, lavender, birch, chai spice and roasted dandelion root, among them — and two vodkas, organic and vanilla, in nine states.

More flavors are now in development.

A sustainable landscape designer, Lelania Dubay said, "I'm coming at this, taking the plants and flowers that I love and preserving them in alcohol so we can have a delicious, clean cocktail."

Lelania Dubay said 55% of what the distillery produces is stocked on package store shelves — the liqueurs under the "Wild Moon" label — with the remainder in restaurants. The split is intentional, she said, "so you can make really great cocktails at home. That's our goal."

While Hartford Flavor sales slumped a bit early in the pandemic, they came roaring back in 2021, registering a 30% annual increase, which is historically what the distillery has seen, Lelania Dubay said.

While the Dubays, who live in the city's West End, plan for the parlor downtown, they also are readying their tasting room and distillery in Parkville to serve cocktails mixed with their liqueurs and vodkas to the public.

A state law now permits distilleries — alongside breweries and vineyards — to

sell mixed drinks by the glass, and Hartford Flavor expects to be among the first. Previously, distilleries could only operate tasting rooms for visitors who took tours.

They hope to be open in the next eight to 10 weeks, once they secure their cafe permit.

### Meeting in the middle

# WORLD & NATION

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## France's Macron reelected easily

Defeat of far-right's Le Pen relieves allies amid war in Ukraine

By John Leicester  
Associated Press

PARIS — French President Emmanuel Macron comfortably won a second term Sunday, triggering relief among allies that the nuclear-armed power won't abruptly shift course in the midst of the war in Ukraine from European Union and NATO efforts to punish and contain Russia's military expansionism.

The second five-year term for the 44-year-old centrist spared France and Europe from the seismic upheaval of having firebrand populist Marine Le Pen at the helm. Macron's presidential runoff challenger who quickly conceded defeat but still registered her best electoral showing.

Acknowledging that "numerous" voters cast ballots for him simply to keep out Le Pen's fiercely nationalist far-right policies, Macron pledged to reunite the country "filled with so many doubts, so many divisions" and work to assuage the voter anger that fed Le Pen's campaign.

"No one will be left by the side of the road," he said in a victory speech against the backdrop of the Eiffel Tower and a projection of the French flag.

"We have a lot to do and the war in Ukraine reminds us that we are going through tragic times where France must make its voice heard," he said, as several hundred supporters happily waved French and EU flags.

During her campaign, Le Pen pledged to dilute French



Supporters of French President Emmanuel Macron celebrate on Sunday at the Eiffel Tower in Paris. LEWIS JOLY/AP

ties with the 27-nation EU, NATO and Germany, moves that would have shaken Europe's security architecture as the continent deals with its worst conflict since World War II. Le Pen also spoke out against EU sanctions on Russian energy supplies and faced scrutiny during the campaign over her previous friendliness with the Kremlin.

European leaders hailed Macron's victory. "Democracy wins, Europe wins," said Spanish Prime Minister Pedro Sánchez.

"Together we will make France and Europe advance," tweeted European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen.

Italian Premier Mario Draghi hailed Macron's victory as "splendid news for all of Europe" and a boost to the EU "being a protagonist in the greatest challenges of our times, starting with the war in Ukraine."

Macron won with 58.5% of the vote to Le Pen's 41.5% — significantly closer than when they first faced off in 2017. Macron is the first French president in 20 years to win reelection, since incumbent Jacques Chirac trounced Le Pen's father, Jean-Marie, in 2002.

Le Pen, 53, called her results "a shining victory," saying that "in this defeat, I can't help but feel a form of hope."

Breaking 40% of the vote is unprecedented for the French far-right. Le Pen was beaten 66% to 34% by Macron in 2017, and her father got less than 20% against Chirac.

Le Pen and hard-left leader Jean-Luc Mélenchon, one of 10 candidates eliminated in the first round on April 10, both quickly pitched forward to France's legislative election in June, urging voters to give them a parliamentary majority to hamstring Macron.

Le Pen's showing this time rewarded her yearslong efforts to make her far-right politics more palatable to voters. Campaigning hard on cost-of-living issues, she

made deep inroads among blue-collar voters in disaffected rural communities and in former industrial centers.

Le Pen voter Jean-Marie Cornic, 78, said he cast his ballot for her because he wanted a president who would prioritize "our daily lives — salaries, taxes, pensions."

The drop in support for Macron compared with five years ago points to a tough battle ahead for the president to rally people behind him in his second term.

Many French voters found the rematch less compelling than in 2017, when Macron was an unknown factor, having never previously

held elected office.

Leftist voters — unable to identify with either the centrist president or Le Pen's fiercely nationalist platform — agonized over the choices available Sunday. Some trooped reluctantly to polling stations solely to stop Le Pen, casting joyless votes for Macron.

"It was the least worst choice," said Stephanie David, a transport logistics worker who backed a communist candidate in round one.

It was an impossible choice for retiree Jean-Pierre Roux. Having also voted communist in the opening round, he dropped an empty envelope into the ballot box on Sunday, repelled by Le Pen's politics and what he saw as Macron's arrogance.

"I am not against his ideas, but I cannot stand the person," Roux said.

In contrast, Marian Arbre, voting in Paris, cast his ballot for Macron "to avoid a government that finds itself with fascists, racists."

"There's a real risk," the 29-year-old fretted.

Macron went into the vote as the firm favorite but faced a fractured, anxious and tired electorate. The war in Ukraine and the COVID-19 pandemic battered Macron's first term, as did months of violent protests against his economic policies.

In celebrating victory, Macron acknowledged a debt to voters, "not to support the ideas I hold, but to block those of the extreme right."

"I want to thank them and tell them that I am aware that their vote obliges me for the years to come," he said. "I am the custodian of their sense of duty."

## Israel accuses Hamas of inciting holy site violence

Foreign minister: Group's plan is to set off conflict in region

By Ilan Ben Zion  
Associated Press

JERUSALEM — Israel's foreign minister on Sunday accused the Hamas militant group of orchestrating recent unrest at Jerusalem's most sensitive holy site, responding to criticism that Israeli police used heavy-handed tactics to quell the violence.

Yair Lapid made the comments following days of clashes between Israeli police and Palestinians at the contested holy site, which is revered by Jews and Muslims.

The confrontations have come at a time of heightened tensions following a string of deadly attacks inside Israel, arrest raids in the occupied West Bank and rocket attacks into Israel launched from the Hamas-dominated Gaza Strip.

Lapid accused Hamas of "hijacking" activities at the Al-Aqsa Mosque during the Muslim holy month of Ramadan and encouraging young Palestinian men to throw stones and fireworks at Israeli security forces.

"They have done this to

create the provocation to force the Israeli police to enter the mosque" and set off a regionwide conflict, he said.

The Al-Aqsa Mosque is the third-holiest site in Islam and an emotional symbol for the Palestinians. It is also the holiest site for Jews, who call it the Temple Mount because it was the location of the biblical Jewish Temples.

The competing claims to the site lie at the heart of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

The Palestinians have accused Israel of provoking the latest violence by allowing large numbers of Jewish pilgrims to visit the site. Last week, Jews celebrated Passover, a time when tens of thousands of people visit Jerusalem.

Under longstanding agreements, Jews are permitted to visit the compound, but they are barred from praying. But in recent years, an increasing number of religious extremists have begun to quietly pray, sometimes with Israeli police watching. The Palestinians fear such actions are part of an Israeli plot to take over or divide the site.

Lapid rejected such accusations, saying that Israel is committed to maintaining the "status quo" at the site.

He called on Israel's allies in the Muslim world to "act against these fake news" and to help calm the situation.

Lapid also rejected suggestions that Israeli police have used excessive force to disperse the demonstrations at the Al-Aqsa site.

On Friday, Israeli riot police stormed the compound after Palestinian youths hurled stones at them. Palestinian social media have been filled with videos showing Israeli police hitting people with clubs and firing tear gas and stun grenades. Israeli police, meanwhile, released their own videos showing Palestinians in the mosque hurling stones and explosives.

After midday prayers on Friday, a small group of Palestinians waving Hamas flags marched in protest and tried to break into an empty police post inside the compound. Israeli police used a drone to drop tear gas on them, sending crowds scattering.

During Ramadan, Israel ensured that hundreds of thousands of Muslims could go to the Temple Mount and pray at Al-Aqsa," Lapid said. "Despite provocations by terrorist organizations, despite attempts to stoke violence: We have done, and continue to do everything to



Israeli Foreign Minister Yair Lapid says the Hamas militant group is responsible for "hijacking" activities at the Al-Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem. DEBBIE HILL/POOL VIA GETTY-AFP

enable peaceful prayer."

However, Israel has maintained restrictions that bar entry to the mosque for hundreds of thousands of Muslim Palestinians from the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip. Israel says such restrictions are a security measure.

In Cairo, the leaders of Egypt, Jordan and the United Arab Emirates — three countries that have full diplomatic relations with Israel — met Sunday to discuss the tensions in Jerusalem.

A statement after the talks said Egyptian President Abdel Fattah el-Sissi, King Abdullah II of Jordan, and Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, the de facto leader of the United Arab Emirates, called for calm.

They also urged Israel to "stop all measures that undermine the two-state solution," and to find a way to return to negotiations with the Palestinians. Israeli Prime Minister Naftali Bennett has ruled out peace

talks and opposes Palestinian independence, but has pledged to reduce tensions by taking steps to improve living conditions in the West Bank and Gaza.

Hamas spokesman Fawzi Barhoum blamed Israel.

"The one who bears full responsibility for detonating the situation in Jerusalem and Al-Aqsa Mosque is the occupation government, which brutally attacks defenseless worshippers on a daily basis... and tries to impose the project of Judaization," he said.

President Biden's declaration angered Turkey on Sunday.

ANDREW HARNIK/AP

## Biden marks 'Armenian genocide,' aims to stop 'atrocities'

By Josh Boak  
Associated Press

WILMINGTON, Del. — President Joe Biden on Sunday commemorated the 107th anniversary of the start of the "Armenian genocide," issuing a statement in memory of the 1.5 million Armenians "who were deported, massacred or marched to their deaths in a campaign of extermination" by Ottoman Empire forces.

Turkey said Biden's decla-

ration was "incompatible with historical facts and international law."

Biden's statement did not reference the Russian invasion of Ukraine, which Biden has called a genocide.

Yet Biden used the anniversary to lay down a set of principles for foreign policy as the United States and its allies arm Ukrainians and impose sanctions on Russia.

"We renew our pledge to remain vigilant against the corrosive influence of hate in all its forms," the presi-

dent said. "We recommit ourselves to speaking out and stopping atrocities that leave lasting scars on the world."

In 1915, Ottoman officials arrested Armenian intellectuals and community leaders in Constantinople, now Istanbul. The Biden statement notes that this event on April 24 marked the beginning of the genocide.

Fulfilling a campaign promise, Biden used the term "genocide" for the first time during last year's anni-

versary. Past White Houses had avoided that word for decades out of a concern that Turkey — a NATO member — could be offended.

Turkey's government was angered by Biden's declaration on Sunday.

"Statements that are incompatible with historical facts and international law regarding the events of 1915 are not valid," the Foreign Ministry said in a statement.

Turkey acknowledges that many died in that era, but it says that the death toll

is inflated, that the deaths resulted from civil unrest and that Muslim Turks were also killed.

Foreign Minister Mevlut Cavusoglu on Twitter accused Western leaders of "hypocrisy" for arguing in relation to Russia's actions in Ukraine that the term "genocide" can only be determined by court decisions.

Biden has said it would be up to lawyers to decide if Russia's conduct met the international standard of genocide.

**WORLD&NATION****NEWS BRIEFING****Sudan aid group says renewed tribal clashes kill scores in Darfur**

From news services

**CAIRO** — A Sudanese aid group said that tribal clashes on Sunday between Arabs and non-Arabs in the war-ravaged Darfur region have killed 168 people.

Adam Regal, spokesman for the General Coordination for Refugees and Displaced in Darfur, said fighting in the Kreinik area of West Darfur province also wounded 98 others.

He said the clashes first erupted Thursday with the killing of two people by an unknown assailant in Kreinik, around 18 miles east of Genena, the provincial capital of West Darfur.

He said the militias known as janjaweed attacked the area early Sunday with heavy weapons, and burned down and looted houses in the area.

The clashes eventually reached Genena, where militias and armed groups attacked wounded people while they were being treated at the city's main hospital, according to Salah Saleh, a doctor and former medical director at the hospital.

Authorities have deployed more troops to the region since the fighting on Thursday left eight dead and at least 16 others wounded.

Sudan's Darfur region has seen bouts of deadly fights between rival tribes in recent months as the country remains mired in a wider crisis following last year's coup, when top generals overthrew a civilian-led government.

The October coup has upended the country's fragile path to democracy after a popular uprising led the military to overthrow longtime autocrat Omar al-Bashir in April 2019.

**Outbreak in China:** Volunteers and government work-

ers in Shanghai erected metal barriers in multiple districts to block off small streets and entrances to apartment complexes as China hardens its strict "zero-COVID" approach in its largest city despite growing complaints from residents.

In the city's financial district, Pudong, the barriers were put up in several neighborhoods under a local government directive, according to Caixin, a Chinese business media outlet.

Buildings where cases have been found sealed up their main entrances, with a small opening for pandemic prevention workers to pass through.

In Beijing, authorities announced a mass testing starting Monday of Chaoyang district, home to more than 3 million people in the Chinese capital.

The announcement set off panic buying Sunday evening, with vegetables, eggs, soy sauce and other items quickly taken off grocery shelves.

China reported 21,796 new community transmitted COVID-19 infections on Sunday, with the vast majority being asymptomatic cases in Shanghai. Across the country, many cities and provinces have enforced some version of a lockdown in an attempt to slow the spread of the virus.

**WWI soldiers buried:** The remains of 17 missing French soldiers who fought in the World War I Battle of Gallipoli were on Sunday handed over to French military officials and put to rest alongside other fallen comrades more than a century after their deaths.

The remains were found during restoration work on a castle and surrounding areas on Turkey's northwest-



**Supporters display masks** of Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi as they wait to listen to him speak Sunday near Jammu, India. Modi is visiting Himalayan Kashmir for his first public event since New Delhi stripped the disputed region's semi-autonomy and took direct control in 2019. Government forces fanned out across the region to quell any violence. **CHANNI ANAND/AP**

ern Canakkale Peninsula, where Allied forces fought against Ottoman Turks in the ill-fated campaign that started on April 25, 1915.

The ceremony coincided with commemorations marking the 107th anniversary of the start of the battle, during which French, British and other soldiers are remembered. On Monday, Australians and New Zealanders will mark Anzac Day to remember their fallen soldiers in a ceremony at dawn.

**US gas prices:** The national average retail price of regular-grade gasoline dropped 3 cents in the past two weeks to \$4.24 a gallon, the Lundberg Survey reported Sunday.

That brings the total decline over six weeks to 19 cents a gallon, leaving the current price \$1.27 above its year-ago point, the survey said.

Mid-grade gasoline averaged \$4.57 a gallon and premium averaged \$4.83.

Nationwide, the highest average price for regular-grade gasoline in the April 22 survey was \$5.71 in the San Francisco Bay Area. The lowest average was \$3.70 in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

**Attacks in Mali:** A series of attacks targeted three military bases in Mali on Sunday, killing at least six soldiers and injuring nearly a dozen more, the West African nation's army said.

In a tweet, the Malian army said simultaneous attacks were in the towns of Sevare, Niono and Bapho.

While no one claimed responsibility for the attack, violence linked to al-Qaida and the Islamic State has ravaged the nation for eight years. The military junta that seized power in 2020 has been struggling to stem the violence.

Mali's army has been attacked a number of times this year, but this is the first time they are being hit in three different cities.

A military official not

authorized to speak to the media said the attacks involved car bombs.

The violence occurred in the center of the country where the Malian military together with the Wagner Group, a Russian mercenary force, has been very active.

**Coal mine deaths:** The death toll from accidents in recent days at two coal mines in southern Poland has increased to nine after four miners were brought to the surface and pronounced dead, authorities said Sunday.

The miners were among 10 missing since an underground tremor and methane gas discharge at the Borynia-Zofiowka mine early Saturday. Six miners remain missing, and there is no contact with them.

At the nearby Pniowek mine, five workers died and seven are missing after repeated methane blasts that started Wednesday.

The search for the missing there was suspended Friday

after new explosions late Thursday injured 10 rescue workers.

**Southwest wildfires:** New Mexico Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham has signed emergency declarations as 20 wildfires continued to burn Sunday in nearly half of the state's drought-stricken 33 counties.

One wildfire in northern New Mexico that started April 6 merged with a newer fire Saturday to form the largest blaze in the state, leading to evacuations in Mora and San Miguel counties. That fire was at 84 square miles Sunday and 12% contained.

A wind-driven wildfire in northern New Mexico that began April 17 had charred 81 square miles by Sunday morning, north of Ocate, an unincorporated community in Mora County.

Meanwhile in Arizona, some residents forced to evacuate due to a wildfire near Flagstaff were allowed to return home Sunday.

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## ANALYSIS

# Crossing lines, few consequences

In Trump-era GOP, 'words don't matter' like they once did

**By Jonathan Weisman**  
The New York Times

WASHINGTON — There was a time in the nation's capital when lines mattered, and when they were crossed, the consequences were swift and severe.

House Speaker Jim Wright, a Democrat, lost his job in 1989 amid charges of corruption and profiteering. Almost a decade later, Speaker Newt Gingrich, a Republican, lost his after disappointing midterms.

Gingrich's expected successor, Robert Livingston, then admitted he had violated the public's trust by having an extramarital affair — even as he demanded President Bill Clinton's resignation for having an affair with a White House intern — and bowed out on his own.

More recently, Sen. Al Franken of Minnesota and Rep. John Conyers Jr. of Michigan, both Democrats, were forced to exit Congress amid charges of sexual harassment during the #MeToo era. On the Republican side, Reps. Blake Farenthold of Texas, Patrick Meehan of Pennsylvania and Trent Franks of Arizona were also driven out by allegations of sexual impropriety.

Yet when the House Republican leader, Rep. Kevin McCarthy of California, was shown to have lied about his response to the deadliest assault on the U.S. Capitol in centuries and President Donald Trump's culpability for it, there was little expectation that the consequences would be swift or severe — or that there would be any at all.

Dissembling is not a crime, but doing so to conceal a wholesale reversal on a matter as serious as



House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy and then-President Donald Trump at a rally in California. DAVID MCNEW/GETTY 2020

an attack on the citadel of democracy and the possible resignation of a president would once have been considered career-ending for a politician, particularly one who aspires to the highest position in the House.

Not so for a Republican in the age of Trump, when McCarthy's brand of lie was nothing particularly new. On Friday, U.S. Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene, R-Ga., said under oath at an administrative law hearing in Atlanta that she could "not recall" having advocated Trump imposing martial law to stop the transfer of power to Joe Biden, a position that would seem difficult to forget.

"It's a tragic indictment of the political process these days — and the Republican Party of late — that truth doesn't matter, words don't matter, everybody can be elastic in areas that were once viewed as concrete," said Mark Sanford, a former Republican governor of South Carolina who lied about his whereabouts when he was pursuing an extramarital affair in South America and was censured by the state House of Representatives. "You cross lines

now, and there are no longer consequences."

Sanford's political comeback as a Republican member of the House ended when he crossed the one line that does still matter in his party: He condemned Trump as intolerant and untrustworthy. Trump called him "nothing but trouble," and Sanford was defeated in a primary in 2018.

It was Trump who showed just how few consequences there could be for transgressions that once seemed beyond the pale for the nation's leaders in 2016, when he survived the release of leaked audio in which he boasted of sexually assaulting women — then went on to win the presidency. In the years afterward, he survived two impeachment trials, on charges of pressuring Ukraine for his own political gain and of inciting the Capitol riot, and he continues to spread the lie that the 2020 election was stolen from him.

Those episodes were vivid proof, if any more were needed, that tribalism and party loyalty now outweigh any notion of integrity, or

even steadfast policy beliefs. But if there were any questions about whether the end of Trump's presidency would begin to restore old mores and guardrails, the past months have put those to rest.

McCarthy's latest travails with the truth are reminiscent of the last time he had the speakership in his grasp and instructive about how Trump has changed the landscape.

Then, as now, the California Republican's troubles started when he told the truth. In 2015, after Speaker John Boehner handed over the gavel, McCarthy made the mistake of saying on camera that the appointment of a special committee to examine the terrorist attack on a U.S. government compound in Benghazi, Libya, was aimed at least in part at diminishing the approval ratings of Hillary Clinton, who had been secretary of state at the time of the attack. Fellow House Republicans were furious,

insisting that their pursuit of the issue had nothing to do with politics. They gave the speaker's gavel to Rep. Paul Ryan.

This time, the truth McCarthy told was that Trump's conduct on Jan. 6, 2021, had been "atrocious and totally wrong" and that he planned to seek his resignation. The lie McCarthy told was that he had said no such thing, and that The New York Times had made it up, a statement that was quickly refuted by his taped voice telling Rep. Liz Cheney, R-Wyo., exactly what The Times said he had said.

Appearing on CNN's "State of the Union" on Sunday, Sen. Elizabeth Warren, D-Mass., slammed McCarthy as a "liar and a traitor."

But unlike in 2015, partisan hatred of the media and a desire for party unity might carry the day. Republicans said Friday that they were singularly focused on winning control of the House. Their voters are far more concerned with the policies of Biden and Speaker Nancy Pelosi than the words of the House minority leader, whom most of them have never heard of, said former Rep. Jason Chaffetz, R-Utah.

"Conservatives and

Republicans think it's an unfair fight in the media; it's always a Republican issue that gets the ink and not the Democrats," said Chaffetz, who challenged McCarthy for the speakership in 2015 when he stumbled. "They feel picked on. That's not to justify anything, but the treatment in the national media is something that bolsters Republicans."

As the news media parsed Greene's testimony Friday during a long-shot hearing to determine whether she was an "insurrectionist" disqualified from seeking reelection, Greene was fundraising off what she says is persecution.

On the witness stand, she laughed off the charges that she had supported the rioters because the evidence against her had been reported by CNN and other outlets that she said could not be trusted.

In her fundraising appeal, she made the most of her day on the stand.

"The deck has been so stacked against me that I had to file a lawsuit to stop this charade," she wrote to supporters before asserting with no evidence that she would probably have to take her battle to stay on the ballot to the Supreme Court. "Fighting their fraudulent lawsuit could cost me hundreds of thousands of dollars."

For Republicans, the ultimate arbiter of lines not to be crossed and the consequences to be paid remains Trump.

For now, the former president signaled all is fine with McCarthy: "I think it's all a big compliment, frankly," Trump told The Wall Street Journal on Friday. If Trump decides McCarthy must pay for his prevarications — or for the truths he tried to hide — the price still could be high.

Associated Press contributed.



Rescue personnel shield a stretcher from the media as they make a transfer to a waiting ambulance Sunday in Shari, a town on the Japanese island of Hokkaido. JIJI PRESS

## Rescuers: 10 confirmed dead after Japanese tour boat sinks

**By Mari Yamaguchi**  
Associated Press

TOKYO — Rescuers said that 10 people who were retrieved Sunday from the frigid sea and the rocky coast of a northern Japanese national park had died, a day after a tour boat with 26 aboard apparently sank in rough waters, triggering questions why it was allowed to sail.

The search for others is ongoing after the boat sent a distress call Saturday afternoon saying it was sinking. The location, near the Kashuni Waterfall, is known as a difficult place to maneuver boats because of its rocky coastline and strong tide.

There were two crew and 24 passengers, including two children, on the 19-ton Kazu 1 when it ran into trouble while traveling off the western coast of the Shiretoko Peninsula. The coast guard said the 10 victims — seven men and three women — were adults.

The Transport Ministry launched an investigation into the boat's operator, which had two accidents last year. The ministry said

it was looking into safety standards and the decision to conduct the tour despite rough weather Saturday.

The operator, Shiretoko Pleasure Cruise, had been instructed to take steps to improve its safety following earlier accidents in which it ran aground in June without causing injuries, and another in May, when three passengers suffered minor injuries when the boat collided with an object.

"We will thoroughly investigate what caused this situation and what kind of safety oversight was involved to allow the tour in order to prevent another accident," said Transport Minister Tetsuo Saito, who visited the area Sunday.

Following an intensive search involving six patrol boats, several aircraft and divers that went through the night, rescuers on early Sunday found four people near the tip of Shiretoko National Park and later six more in the same area, nearly 9 miles north from where the boat sent a distress call.

Some of them were plucked from the sea, while others were washed onto the rocky coast.

An orange-colored, square-shaped lifesaving float with the boat's name on it was also found near the rocks, the coast guard said.

Footage on public broadcaster NHK showed one of the victims arriving on a helicopter and being transferred to an ambulance on a stretcher.

Rescuers held up blue plastic shields to protect the victim's privacy.

The sightseeing vessel made an emergency call early Saturday afternoon, saying its bow had flooded and that it was beginning to sink and tilt, the coast guard said. Contact with the boat had since been lost.

The coast guard said the operator told them that everyone on the boat was wearing a life vest, but some of the victims found were without them.

Average April sea temperatures in Shiretoko National Park are just above freezing, which experts say would cause hypothermia.

"It's a very severe condition especially when they are wet," Jun Abe, vice chairman of the Society of Water Rescue and Survival Research, told TBS TV.

## COVID-19 shots work but improvements being sought

**By Lauran Neergaard**  
Associated Press

COVID-19 vaccines still offer strong protection against severe illness and death, but Moderna and Pfizer are testing combination shots as a possible new kind of booster.

The vaccines were made to fight the original version of the virus. Variants are chipping away at some of their benefits, particularly their effectiveness against mild infection.

The newer vaccine versions being tested are mixes — the original vaccine and protection against the highly contagious omicron mutant.

Other companies are pursuing nasal vaccines that might one day better prevent milder infections.

The hunt for improvements comes amid concern that "booster fatigue" may dampen public confidence in the successful shots.

COVID-19 vaccinations are at a crucial juncture as companies test whether new approaches like combination shots or nasal drops can keep up with a mutating coronavirus — even though it's not clear if changes are needed.

Already there's public confusion about who should get a second booster now and who can wait. There's also debate about whether pretty much everyone might need an extra dose in the fall.

"I'm very concerned about booster fatigue" causing a loss of confidence in vaccines that still offer very strong protection against COVID-19's worst outcomes, said Dr. Beth Bell of the University of Washington, an adviser to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Despite success in preventing serious illness and death, there's growing pressure to develop vaccines better at fending



A health worker administers a dose of COVID-19 vaccine at a clinic in Reading, Pennsylvania. MATT ROURKE/AP

off milder infections, too — as well as options to counter scary variants.

"We go through a fire drill it seems like every quarter, every three months or so" when another mutant causes frantic tests to determine if the shots are holding, Pfizer vaccine chief Kathryn Jansen told a recent meeting of the New York Academy of Sciences.

Yet seeking improvements for the next round of vaccinations may seem like a luxury for U.S. families anxious to protect their smallest children — kids under 5 who are not yet eligible for a shot.

Moderna's Dr. Jacqueline Miller said told Associated Press that its application to give two low-dose shots to the youngest children would be submitted to the Food and Drug Administration "fairly soon."

Pfizer hasn't yet reported data on a third dose of its extra-small shot for tots, after two didn't prove strong enough.

The original COVID-19 vaccines remain protective against serious illness, hospitalization and death, especially after a booster dose, even against the most contagious variants.

Updating the vaccine recipe to match the latest variants is risky, because the next mutant could be completely unrelated. So companies are taking a cue from the flu vaccine, which offers protection against three or four different strains in one shot every year.

Moderna and Pfizer are testing 2-in-1 COVID-19 protection that they hope to offer this fall. Each "bivalent" shot would mix the original, proven vaccine with an omicron-targeted version.

Moderna has a hint the approach could work. It has tested a combo shot that targeted the original version of the virus and an earlier variant named beta — and found vaccine recipients developed modest levels of antibodies capable of fighting not just beta but also newer mutants like omicron.

Moderna now is testing its omicron-targeted bivalent candidate.

But there's a looming deadline. FDA's Dr. Doran Fink said if any updated shots are to be given in the fall, the agency would have to decide on a recipe change by early summer.

**Helen Bennett**  
Executive Editor  
[hbennett@courant.com](mailto:hbennett@courant.com)

# OPINION

COURANT.COM / OPINION

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### South End residents don't want Brainard

The April 3 Opinion page contained a letter to the editor advocating for keeping Brainard Airport in Hartford ("Don't develop Brainard Airport"). What was omitted by the author was the reason for his stand. He is a resident of West Hartford, so why would he care? I do reside in Hartford's South End where Brainard is located. Neither my wife nor I have ever met anyone who lives in Hartford who has a private plane at Brainard. The letter talks of economic benefits to the state but omits the lack of benefits to Hartford residents who are forced to support Brainard with our local property tax dollars. The airport, which is a state-owned facility, is exempt from local taxes except for a much smaller amount under the state's PILOT (payment in lieu of taxes) program.

Residents of wealthy towns surrounding Hartford are always willing to support burdening Hartford with not-in-my-backyard programs such as burning trash, a trash landfill, an oil-fired electric generating plant, and numerous nontaxable state government buildings. Sticking our small capital city with an airport that serves mostly wealthy plane owners is just another example of "we like it as long as it's not in our town."

Jonathan Ney, Hartford

### More oversight needed of state employees

I am a retired state of Connecticut employee and I am proud of the job I did. I do not apologize for my retirement benefits. I fulfilled my contractual obligations as approved by elected officials. However, I believe that some close examination should be given to administrators hired or appointed to oversee our employees. A doctor does not show for work for two years gets paid. A judge does not show up for two years gets paid. A football coach gets a contract renewal and is fired months later and is paid \$5 million. The state mismanages the firing of a basketball coach and he gets \$11 million. Two successive presidents of our flagship university work a few years and walk away with a huge salary to teach a class once in a while.

Maybe more examination needs to be done of the individuals approving these contracts and supervising the no-shows rather than criticizing the state employee who shows up for work every day, doing their job for 20 or 30 years and retiring with his or her contracted benefits.

John Keleher, West Hartford

### Letter-writer wrong on energy independence

In a letter to the editor on April 4, Allen Michewich claimed the U.S. was not energy independent because if we were, "gas would be still just over \$2 a gallon at the pump" and our "inflation rate would be next to nothing." Clearly, he has no understanding of the concept of energy independence or how the U.S. economy interacts with the rest of the world. The Energy Information Administration recently reported that the U.S., which first became energy independent in 2020 during the Trump administration, continued to be energy independent in 2021. Yes, President Joe Biden canceled the Keystone pipeline — but that pipeline was to bring crude oil from Alberta to Nebraska and then on to the Gulf Coast. It had nothing to do with our energy independence. Gasoline prices are set by global markets. U.S. companies are free to sell wherever they get the best price. So our prices have risen and are now high — just like in the rest of the world (average price in the world: \$5.01 USD).

As we search for a solution, it is important to look at facts, not fantasies.

Linda Schroth, East Hampton

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**Living Here:** What is it really like to live in Connecticut?

We welcome all submissions and will publish the best. We especially look for younger writers and those whose voices aren't heard often enough. Essays should be 600-700 words, written in the first person and emailed to [oped@courant.com](mailto:oped@courant.com).



The Connecticut General Assembly is considering legislation that would provide retail and food employees with reasonably predictable work schedules and compensation for being on-call. WANGKUN JIA / GETTY

## OP-ED

# Fair Workweek bill would give workers stability they deserve

By Richard Kehoe, Don Bell, Sebrina Wilson, Harry Amadasun, Angie Parkinson and Awet Tsegai

In this context of labor shortages and rising economic uncertainty, Connecticut corporate leaders and policymakers must take steps to ensure that our businesses remain competitive by making our workforce more productive while controlling costs. We must build an economy that supports small businesses, but also treats our more than 250,000 food and retail workers with the respect they deserve.

The Connecticut General Assembly is considering such legislation that provides retail and food employees with reasonably predictable work schedules and compensation for being on-call.

Many businesses adapt their staffing levels to demand as needed, so they rely on advanced automated software tools to work on "just-in-time" or "on-call" schedules for their employees, calling them in for shifts on short notice to fill any gaps in service, or dismissing them early when demand fails to materialize.

Unfortunately, these practices are burdensome and stressful on employees. Humans are creatures of habit and we tend to like having somewhat predictable lives. Research has shown that having to deal with erratic time, transportation and family arrangements is extremely stressful. Unstable schedules make it much harder for workers to stay current with their bills, pay rent or put food on the

table. Many employees are paid less than a living wage, necessitating a second job that is hard to hold when they are called in with very limited notice. Further, for employees who are parents, an unpredictable schedule means they see their kids less often, making it difficult to ensure the children are being successful in school.

House Bill 5353 would start to address this issue by focusing on large retail employers — those with over 500 employees — and requires workers be given predictable schedules and fair compensation for working on short notice.

This legislation is good for employees and their families but it is also good for employers.

Companies with erratic schedules have much higher employee turnover and employees who are much more likely to just walk away or quit when given the opportunity. Turnover is costly. Experienced workers are more productive; disgruntled employees are more likely to drag their feet. The process of hiring new workers takes time and effort; reviewing applications, interviewing possible hires and training them takes up staff time. In an age where workers are quitting their jobs in great numbers (in no small part, to find a job with better wages and schedules), these costs can add up quickly.

A few years ago, The Gap, conducted an internal experiment. A few of their stores changed how they scheduled work-

ers, posting their schedule two weeks in advance, making shifts more stable. The results were clear and immediate: stores with predictable schedules had much lower employee turnover, had marked increases in productivity (5%, unheard of in retail) and saw on average a 7% sales increase, way ahead of the industry norm. Employees loved the changes and managers enjoyed both spending less time dealing with schedules and having much happier workers.

Other companies, like Walmart, have followed suit in recent years, giving workers more stable schedules. Treating workers with respect is not just a matter of economic fairness or a moral imperative, but also happens to make good business sense.

The industry, however, has been slow to change.

House Bill 5353 will largely adopt the practices pioneered by The Gap and others of two-weeks advance notice for schedules. The proposed bill is similar to regulations already in effect in Seattle, Chicago, New York and Oregon that have had an immediate positive effect on workers — and has helped businesses retain and promote talent.

Fair Workweek will give workers the stability they deserve — and make Connecticut businesses stronger in the process.

*The writers are members of the East Hartford town council*

## OP-ED

# Biden has a tawdry new scheme to cripple nation's charter schools

By George F. Will

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — There is honor, of a sordid sort, in the Biden administration's showing more gratitude to a major donor than concern for the needs of millions of children, disproportionately minorities. The administration prefers the donor, a government-employees union, over the children, even though this tawdry fidelity to a funder will exacerbate Democrats' growing problems with Black and Hispanic voters. This is the significance of the number 97.9.

From 1990 on, that is the *lowest* percentage of the American Federation of Teachers' campaign contributions that went to Democrats. It explains the administration's contemptible pettiness in persecuting charter schools with punitive regulations intended to be crippling.

Charter schools are tuition-free public schools authorized to exercise wider discretion in educational practices than most public schools that are tightly enveloped in union rules. Although charters do not divert public funds from public education, teachers unions generally oppose them because charters expand parents' choices, thereby infusing into public education something teachers unions dread: competition.

Last month, President Joe Biden's Education Department released 13 pages of pettifogging rules patently written to discourage and impede charter schools from accessing a \$440 million federal program of support for charters. The rules include:

A charter must serve a "diverse" population. This could disqualify a school that serves, as many charters do, non-diverse — that is, non-White — inner-city populations.

A charter must prepare a "community impact analysis" demonstrating that there is an "unmet demand" for it. Such a demonstration must be evidence

of "over-enrollment of existing public schools," not long waiting lists for admission to charters by parents dismayed by public schools whose dismal performance has produced under-enrollment because of parental flight.

Charters must supply plans for "racially and socio-economically diverse" staff, effectively a mandate for a racial spoils system. Charters must drown themselves in paperwork not required of traditional public schools — detailed reports on purchases of goods and services from for-profit companies.

Biden's handmaidens of the AFT and other teachers unions say a charter should "collaborate with at least one traditional public school" and provide a letter from each such "partnering" school attesting to each partner's "commitment" to the "collaboration." This salad of weasel words requires charters to get permission from schools with which the charters would compete.

Biden's tapestry of obstructions will not halt the proliferation of charters. Despite the Democratic Party's increasingly frantic opposition, more than 7,000 charters with 205,000 teachers now serve more than 3 million students. Furthermore, Frederick M. Hess and Hayley Sanon of the American Enterprise Institute say, "In some communities, tens of thousands of families who came up empty in charter admissions lotteries are on waitlists." This large cohort of parents is opposed by progressives who are, to say no more, selectively "pro-choice."

Minnesota opened the first charter school in 1992. In 1994, President Bill Clinton, celebrating Senate passage of the first federal support for charter schools, said the legislation "puts the Federal Government squarely on the side of public school choice" and "innovative charter schools." In 1995, at a San Diego charter, he said the school was "freed of a lot of the rules and regulations that keep

some of our schools all across America from designing their own ways of educating children." He criticized congressional Republicans for proposing a budget that "would cut back on our ability to promote charter schools." By the end of Clinton's presidency, there were 1,941 charters.

This expressed the Clinton centrism that enabled him to become the first Democratic president reelected since Franklin D. Roosevelt. Today, a Democratic president's dismal poll numbers reflect, among much else, somewhat declining support among Black people, and hemorrhaging support among Hispanics. A 2019 poll of Democratic voters, before the pandemic deepened dissatisfaction with union tyranny over public education, showed Blacks supporting charters 58-to-31, and Hispanic support at 52-to-30. Charters' current enrollments are 24.9% Black and 35.2% Hispanic, far above each cohort's portion of the nation's population.

President Barack Obama, who made Biden's presidency possible, said charters "serve as incubators of innovation" and "give educators the freedom to cultivate new teaching models and develop creative methods to meet students' needs." Biden, whose invertebrate embrace of progressives' obsessions has ruined his presidency, is waging aggression against charters *because* they are the most accountable public schools: Parents choose them and if dissatisfied can change their minds.

If the Republican Party adopted, for obvious monetary reasons, a policy comparably hostile to minorities' preferences and interests, progressives' cries of "Racism!" would be deafening. Is there today another such clear connection between a party's particular policy and the party's cupidity?

George F. Will writes a twice-weekly column on politics and domestic and foreign affairs for the Washington Post.

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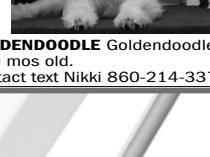
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## PUBLIC NOTICES

### Hartford

#### NOTICE OF HEARING

TO: Sierra Thompson, mother of N.M.M., you are hereby notified that the State of Vermont has filed a petition to terminate your residual parental rights to N.M.M. and that the hearing to consider the termination of all residual parental rights to N.M.M. will be held on May 13, 2022 at 8:30 AM at the Vermont Superior Court, Chittenden County Division, at 32 Church Street, Suite 200, Burlington, Vermont 05401. You may appear remotely by contacting the Clerk's office at 802-651-1709. You are notified to appear in connection with this case. Failure to appear at this hearing may result in the termination of all of your parental rights to N.M.M. The State is represented by the Attorney General's Office, HC 2 North, 280 4/20 & 4/25/22 7191826

#### NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or about May 4, 2022 the Town of Windsor will submit a request to the Department of Housing for the release of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds under Title 1 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (PL 93-383) to undertake a project known as "Town-wide Housing Rehabilitation Program" requesting \$400,000 from DOH's Small Cities Program for the purpose of rehabbing approximately nine housing units for low/moderate income households.

The proposed activities are categorically excluded under HUD regulations at 24 CFR Part 58 from National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) (PL-91-190). An Environmental Review Record (ERR) respecting the within program has been made by the Town of Windsor which documents the environmental review of the project and more fully sets forth the reasons why such statement is not required. This Environmental Review Record is on file at the Town of Windsor, 275 Broad Street, Windsor, CT, and is available for public examination and copying, upon request, at the Office of Community Development, on weekdays from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM, Monday through Friday. No further environmental review of such project is proposed to be conducted.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**  
All interested agencies, groups, and persons disagreeing with the ERR decision are invited to submit written comments for consideration by the Town of Windsor to the Office of Community Development. Such written comments should be received at 275 Broad Street, Windsor, CT on or before May 4, 2022. All such comments so received will be considered prior to authorizing submission of a request for a release of funds or taking any administrative action on the within project prior to the date specified on the proceeding sentence. Comments should specify which Notice they are addressing.

#### ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION

The Town of Windsor will undertake the project described above with Block Grant funds from the Department of Housing under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974. The Town of Windsor is certifying to the state that Peter Souza in his capacity of Town Manager of the Town of Windsor consents to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal courts if an action of brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to environmental reviews, decision making, and action; and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. The legal effect of the certification is that upon its approval Peter Souza may use the Block Grant funds and the state and HUD will have satisfied their responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and related laws and authorities.

**OBJECTION TO RELEASE OF FUNDS**  
The state will accept objections to its release of funds and the Town of Windsor's certification for a period of fifteen days following the anticipated submittal date or its actual receipt of the request. Objections are limited to those on one of the following bases: (a) the certification was not executed by the Certifying Officer of the Town of Windsor; (b) the Town of Windsor has failed to make one of the two findings pursuant to §§58.41 or to make the written determination decision required by §§58.57, 58.53 or 58.64 for the project; (c) the Town of Windsor has omitted one of more of the steps set forth in Subparts F and G for the preparation and completion of an EA; (d) no opportunity was given to the Advisory council on Historic Preservation or its Executive Director to review the effect of the project on a property listed in the National Register of Historic Places, or found to be eligible for such listing by the Secretary of the Interior, in accordance with 36 CFR Part 800; (e) the recipient or other participants in the development process have committed funds, incurred costs or undertaken activities not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of the release of funds and approval of the Environmental Certification by HUD or the state; (f) another Federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality.

Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedures (24 CFR Part 58, Sec. 58.76) and shall be addressed to the Department of Housing, 505 Hudson Street, Hartford, CT 06134.

Objections to the release of fund on bases other than those stated above will not be considered by the state. No objections received after May 19, 2022 will be considered by the state. Potential objectors should contact the Department of Housing to verify the actual last day of the state Comment period.

Peter Souza, Town Manager  
275 Broad Street  
Windsor, CT 06095  
4/25/22 7194568

### Connecticut

#### LEGAL NOTICE

#### ACM REMOVAL, FLOOR REPLACEMENT AND RELATED WORK

#### WEST DISTRICT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL 114 WEST DISTRICT ROAD UNIONVILLE, CT

#### STATE PROJECT NO: 052-0079 CV

Sealed bids for ACM Removal, Floor Replacement and Related Work, West District Elementary School, will be accepted by the Town of Farmington at the Office of the Director of School Facilities, Samuel C. Kilpatrick, Farmington Public Schools, One Monteith Drive, Farmington, CT, 06032, until 1:30 PM on Thursday, May 12, 2022 and at that time and place bids will be publicly opened and read aloud. Complete bid documents can be viewed and ordered through Advanced Reprographics, LLC, 50 Corporate Avenue, Plainville, CT, 06062. For viewing: Visit [www.advancedrepro.net](http://www.advancedrepro.net), select "Planroom"; select "Public Jobs". Documents will be available Monday, 4/26/22, 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM. Bidding will be open Monday, 4/26/22, 10:00 AM to 1:30 PM. Bids will be accepted by the Director of School Facilities, Samuel C. 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# Hartford Courant CONNECTICUT

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## Time to talk trans issues, advocates say

Misinformation, lack of communication can have harmful effects

**By Christopher Arnott**  
Hartford Courant

HARTFORD — The biggest problem regarding trans issues, local advocates suggest, is the lack of communication about them.

"A lot of the conversation," says Ace Ricker, Community Impact

manager at the New Haven Pride Center, "is like playing Telephone," the kids game where a statement is whispered and whispered until it loses clarity and meaning. "After the first or second person, the information gets misheard or skewed or manipulated."

Ricker's Community Impact manager position at the Pride Center is a new position there that he's held since February.

"I'm a trans man in my mid-30s. I've been a public advocate and

educator for over 15 years," Ricker said. "I'm someone who can talk to people and affirm their voices. A lot of people I come into contact with do not have malice in any form — they just don't know how to ask."

"The school districts I'm working with are not being proactive about this. Teachers don't know how safe they are when teaching queer materials. Teachers don't know if they can approach it."

*Turn to Trans issues, Page 2*



The mother of a transgender child waves a sign reading "Love Knows No Gender" at a Gay Pride Transgender March in Atlanta in 2019.  
**ROBIN RAYNE/AP FILE**



Organized by Black Lives Matter 860, demonstrators march down Albany Avenue in Hartford on Sunday, protesting alleged white supremacist moves into Connecticut from outside the state. PHOTOS BY KENNETH R. GOSSELIN/HARTFORD COURANT

## BLM shows hate group the 'unwelcome mat'

Rally a response to alleged local inroads

**By Kenneth R. Gosselin**  
Hartford Courant

HARTFORD — An alleged move by a reputed white supremacist group into Connecticut sparked strong pushback in Hartford on Sunday as nearly 100 demonstrators rallied and marched through the heart of the city's North End.

One of their chants — "All lives can't matter until Black lives matter" — distilled the message of the demonstration, which organizers said intended to roll out the "unwelcome mat" in Hartford to the New England Nationalist Social Club.

Aaron Joyner, a freshman at the University of Hartford who attended with a half-dozen friends from the university, said she



The rally and march in Hartford's North End pushed back against the New England Nationalist Social Club, which the Anti-Defamation League calls a neo-Nazi group, trying to reach into Hartford and elsewhere in Connecticut.

*Turn to Rally, Page 2*

## Lawmakers weigh three wide-ranging bills

First part of child mental health initiative clears state Senate

**By Susan Haigh**  
Associated Press

State lawmakers advanced the first of three wide-ranging bills attempting to address what's been described as a youth mental health crisis, which has been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Among other things, the legislation that cleared the Senate on a 33-1 vote would make mobile crisis centers available 24/7 statewide by June 30, 2023, and require UConn to study the mental health effects of social media and mobile phone use on children.

Two other bills still awaiting action in the Senate and House of Representatives address in-school and early childhood mental health programs, the state's psychiatric staffing challenges and the avail-

ability of treatment. Sen. Saud Anwar, D-South Windsor, said lawmakers hope to send a clear message to children and parents that they understand the challenges they face and want to help.

All three bills need to be approved by both General Assembly chambers before the legislative session ends May 4.

Some highlights of the initiative:

### ■ Mental health care assistance

Two of the bills provide financial help to families unable to cover the cost of mental health services for their children. In the bill passed Friday by the Senate, the Department of Children and Families is required to develop eligibility standards, based on "social determinants," for grants to families in need. Another bill would provide grants to uninsured and underinsured families.

### ■ Help for student athletes

The Department of Education

is required under the bill that passed Friday to develop a mental health plan to raise awareness about the resources available to student athletes. One goal is to help coaches recognize the signs of mental health challenges and refer student athletes to appropriate services. Before the 2023 school year, each school board will be required to implement the plan.

### ■ Social media study

Under the same bill, the Neag School of Education at UConn will be required to conduct a study of the social media and cellphone use of students and the impact on their mental health. The study will involve students in kindergarten through grade 12. Findings from the study will be submitted to the General Assembly by 2024 for possible future legislation.

### ■ In-school help

The bill also requires local school boards to hire or designate

an existing employee as a family care coordinator to work with school social workers, school psychologists and school counselors, and serve as a liaison with mental health providers.

### ■ No recess restrictions

Schools will no longer be able to withhold recess as a form of student discipline under the same bill. The American Association of Pediatrics has said preventing students from participating in recess can be harmful to their social and emotional wellbeing.

### ■ Drug storage

The Department of Consumer Protection will be required under the bill to develop new safe storage guidelines for prescription drugs and cannabis in order to prevent children from accessing the substances. Signs will have to be displayed in pharmacies and cannabis retail shops, when they eventually open in Connecticut.

## Big raises lead to question of equity

Social service agencies asking: Why not us?

**By Keith M. Phaneuf**  
CT Mirror

Hundreds of nonprofit agencies in Connecticut are watching with great interest as Gov. Ned Lamont and legislators approve big raises and bonuses for state employees.

Lamont and lawmakers say this compensation is crucial to stem a staffing crisis in state departments. Nonprofits, which deliver the overwhelming bulk of state-sponsored social services — and still are struggling to secure a fraction of the funding dedicated to raises — say this applies to them as well.

State employees sacrificed repeatedly over the last 12 years to help close state budget deficits. Nonprofits check this box off as well.

But as negotiations on a new state budget wind down, nonprofits ask why a \$72 million proposal to help their industry, which employs roughly 115,000, remains bogged down — while more than \$400 million per year in raises and bonuses for state employees draws tons of support.

"What about our staff, who have been on the front lines, who have been showing up for work, who have been providing critical care over the last two years, who have been largely ignored over the last couple of decades?" asked Barry Simon, president and CEO of Oak Hill in Hartford, the state's largest nonprofit social services provider.

For decades, the state has saved millions of dollars annually by hiring community-based nonprofits to deliver services for clients with intellectual and developmental disabilities, patients struggling with addiction or mental illness,

*Turn to Agencies, Page 2*

## Child dies after getting stuck under farm tractor

**By Kenneth R. Gosselin**  
Hartford Courant

WATERTOWN — Police in Watertown said they are investigating the death of a 4-year-old child who became entangled under a farm tractor that was running Saturday afternoon.

Watertown police and fire departments responded at about 3:20 p.m. Saturday to a field on Barnes Road between Lake Winnemah and Bunker Hill roads and determined that the child had become entangled within the farm machinery.

The child, whose family lives in the area, was pronounced dead at the scene. The child was not identified.

The Watertown police department extended its sympathy to the family and friends of the child and expressed gratitude to police officers, firefighters and neighbors who "did all they could to help."

Police said there would be no further comment on the incident this weekend.

*Kenneth R. Gosselin can be reached at kgosselin@courant.com.*

## Trans issues

from Page 1

Ricker's take is that trans issues should be addressed in the same manner as other concerns that, if left undiscussed, can lead to bullying, bigotry or misunderstanding.

"Teachers ask me, 'If I have a student who is picking on another student for using different pronouns, how do I approach that?' Ricker said. "It's exactly the same as if they were picking on them for wearing glasses or having freckles."

"They also ask, 'What is too young?' But you're never too young for gender conversations such as 'Pink is not only for girls and blue is not only for boys' or 'not only women like to paint their nails,'"

As for pronouns, he likens it to "married names, which people seem to have no problem adjusting to. We can handle someone changing their name when they get married, but not a kid that wants to be called something else because of who they are? There's no difference."

Ricker says "statistically, one out of every six high school students is coming out as a member of the queer community," furthering the need for open conversation and accurate information. "Remember the conversations you once wouldn't have in your own house. Now people are talking about it. It's in public now."

"I just testified at the public hearing for the nurse who is under investigation for her posts outing a trans student. We heard she was supposed to have people there with her, so 15 to 20 of us went to make sure misinformation wasn't being spread, and 10 of us spoke."

Among common misinformation Ricker cites is that hormone treatments "change

bodies. The charge is that you are changing the makeup of an entire kid, and that kid doesn't know what they're doing. In fact, hormone blockers just stop the puberty process. They are a pause in the process. And surgeons are not going to work with minors, whether the parents agree or not, because they are minors."

Access to resources and information are necessary for emotional well-being in the community, Ricker says. "Over 40 percent of trans individuals admit to thinking of committing suicide. They are not feeling safe because they have already gone to authority figures and not been heard."

Ricker is among that group that has felt unsafe and misunderstood. "I could not tell my parents I was trans until I felt old enough to leave the house," he said. He could not get the information or resources he needed from the doctors he'd grown up seeing. "I felt stuck. I didn't fit in."

He sees the Hartford hearing about the nurse as a sign of "some progress: whether there was opposition or not, that person who may have felt entirely alone can now feel supported, and their school system is making an effort to evaluate their experience."

Kimberly Adamski writes an advice column, "Ask Kim" on the website of the Hartford Gay & Lesbian Health Center, where she works as a prevention specialist. She agrees with Ricker that education and open conversation are critical as trans and nonbinary issues are being more openly debated.

"Locally the big issue is knowledge," Adamski says. "In Connecticut, we do a relatively good job on policy stuff, but knowledge is lacking. There are many more questions these days, especially about nonbinary issues."

Some industries have been more forthright acknowledging the pronouns and gender

identities than others. It has become common for theaters and other arts organizations, for example, to regularly list preferred pronouns in programs and press releases. Adamski was encouraged to see a tabletop gaming group in Newington using pronouns.

"You can't legislate culture," Adamski says. The culture is changing naturally, she suggests, and people have questions. "There is definitely more information out there, more awareness in regards to the trans community. This is the time for folks educated in trans issues to educate other people."

Ricker and Adamski stress that respect and validation are crucial when recognizing trans and nonbinary identity.

One prevalent cause of concern in the trans conversation is the use of the correct pronouns when talking about a trans or nonbinary person. The pronouns are often determined by the individual themselves, and it can be frustrating for some to make the adjustment. Others mock the practice or deliberately misgender as a way to demean or insult.

"What makes me mad is when people deliberately misgender. They cite faulty science, like, 'There are only two genders.' That's not true." And they/them pronouns have been used in medical texts since the 1600s. You can find them in works of Jane Austen."

Ricker agrees. "We use nongender pronouns every day of our lives. You don't question it. You don't have to question it."

A 2020 survey by the newly formed LGBTQ+ Health & Human Services Network noted that 80% of trans individuals reported being discriminated against, a higher number than gender diverse or cisgender respondents.

The network was established by the Connecticut General Assembly in 2019 "to make recommendations to the state legislative, executive, and judicial branches of

government concerning the delivery of health and human services to lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer persons in the state of Connecticut." The survey was conducted to guide the network's work.

According to the report, respondents generally felt that "Connecticut is making visible efforts to meet the needs of the LGBTQ+ community and that Connecticut is a relatively safe place for members of the LGBTQ+ community to live."

Among the report's recommendations: changing forms and documents so as to be inclusive of gender identity, advocating for more antidiscrimination policies, increasing access to health care and mental health care in the LGBTQ+ community, working with service providers on LGBTQ+ issues, improving restroom access for all genders in public facilities and determining whether laws aimed to protect LGBTQ+ individuals in Connecticut are being enforced.

Information on trans and nonbinary issues are easily found online. National information networks providing advice on trans issues include the Trans Lifeline (1-877-565-8860), the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender National Hotline (1-888-843-4564), GLAAD (www.glaad.org), PFLAG (pflag.org) and, for seniors, the Sage LGBTQ Elder Hotline (1-888-234-SAGE).

Among the many local resources are the New Haven Pride Center (newhavenpridecenter.org), Peer Pride (peerpride.com), Anchor Health Initiative (anchorhealthinitiative.org), Middlesex Health's Center for Gender Medicine and Wellness (middlesex-health.org/center-for-gender-medicine-and-wellness).

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## Agencies

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poor families seeking help with housing, food and energy assistance, and others in need.

The roughly \$1.5 billion the state spends annually contracting with these agencies effectively matches the budgets of the departments of transportation, motor vehicles and correction combined — making this mass of community nonprofits the largest unofficial state agency.

Yet the industry is the poor stepchild of the state budget, getting little more money than it did 15 years ago. The CT Community Nonprofit Alliance estimated one year ago that annual state funding is down \$461 million from 2007 levels, once inflation is applied.

Lamont and lawmakers bumped spending in this area by about \$180 million last June. But much of that increase was aimed only at providers serving clients with developmental disabilities and was particularly mandated to boost staff salaries, rather than to pay down debt, upgrade equipment or renovate facilities.

The Appropriations Committee recommended another \$72 million increase in the new budget, but sources said final negotiations between the legislature's Democratic majority and the Lamont administration haven't produced a deal in this area yet.

But even as this is going on, Lamont has negotiated new contracts with raises and bonuses that should boost state employee pay about 7% this fiscal year.

That package, which received final approval

in the Senate on Friday, affects about 46,000 state workers, less than half the workforce of the nonprofit social services sector.

The state employee contracts, which run through at least the 2023-24 fiscal year and which include a provision that could lead raises to be extended through 2024-25 could cost the state almost \$1.9 billion over four years, nonpartisan analysts estimate.

The uncertain fate of the \$72 million for nonprofits is particularly frustrating, industry leads say, given that state government is sitting on a historic pile of cash.

The \$3.1 billion rainy day fund is at its maximum legal limit at 15% of annual operating costs. Lamont disclosed earlier this week that this current fiscal year alone will end June 30 with a staggering \$4 billion left over.

That unprecedented surplus, equal to one-fifth of the state's entire General Fund, stems from an explosion of state income tax receipts tied to investment earnings and robust business tax collections.

"I hope that, given these kinds of record-breaking surpluses, that our political leaders see us as valuable as anybody else," Simon said.

Lamont has not ruled out any funding increase for nonprofits. But even though state reserves are flush, Connecticut has a spending cap, and the governor insists that legislators stay under it. That means if nonprofits are a priority, something else might have to be cut.

And while the state has \$7 billion in present and projected reserves, that still pales in comparison to the \$95 billion in long-term, unfunded retirement benefit obligations and

bonded debt on the state's books.

Sen. Cathy Osten, D-Sprague, co-chairwoman of the Appropriations Committee, has spearheaded the push to boost funding for nonprofits, said Connecticut needs to find the resources this year.

Osten tried last year to win support for a five-year plan to close most of the \$461 million funding gap the industry reported.

And while she wanted more than a \$72 million increase this fiscal year, Osten told the CT Mirror she believes that's the least the state can do to help an industry whose workers risked their health to care for Connecticut's most vulnerable during the worst of the coronavirus pandemic.

"We need to absolutely support the nonprofits who essentially are our safety net," Osten said.

The Sprague lawmaker said she agrees with Lamont and unions that the raises and bonuses are needed to stem state employee retirements. More than 3,400 have left service or filed intentions to do so thus far this calendar year.

But Osten added that huge turnover is a problem nonprofits have been struggling with for decades, one that's easily reached crisis proportions since the pandemic began.

In fact, many nonprofits are struggling to keep pay a few dollars per hour above Connecticut's \$14 minimum wage. That means the range of employers who can steal their workers away is far greater than the competitors poaching state employees.

"The nonprofits are losing staff every day to retail markets like Target and Walmart,"

Osten added.

The nonprofit alliance recently released a survey that shows 28% of community agencies have a workforce vacancy rate of 20% or higher. For smaller nonprofits, those with an annual budget less than \$1 million, the vacancy rate is 35%.

For those serving clients with intellectual and developmental disabilities, the rate is 48%.

Nearly 60% of the 267 agencies surveyed earlier this year by Fios Partners — a Chester-based consulting group specializing in the nonprofit sector — cited a lack of applicants. And almost half of respondents said their salaries were not competitive.

And those vacancies are taking a toll on the disabled and others in need.

Though 53% of smaller nonprofits reported increased demand for services, 23% say they are placing clients on wait lists or indefinitely declining services to some because of capacity limits.

Among larger nonprofits, with annual budgets larger than \$1 million, 73% report increased service demands, and 36% say some clients can't be helped right now.

Gian-Carl Casa, president and CEO of the nonprofit alliance, said agencies don't have good answers for the families being asked to wait for help.

"I don't know how we can go back to people who depend on nonprofit services and say, 'They [state officials] made other choices.'

*Keith Phaneuf is a reporter for The Connecticut Mirror (ctmirror.org). Copyright 2022 © The Connecticut Mirror.*

## Rally

from Page 1

learned about the rally and march through social media.

"Nobody should have to constantly prove that, like, it's our right to be here. It's our right to even want to have equal rights," Joyner said. "I'm thankful, as a Black woman, that there are people here who have a common interest in being able to live the same and live in peace."

Sunday's event was touched off by a recent alleged flash demonstration in Hartford by the Nationalist Social Club and flyers distributed in East Hartford and Southington.

One of those leaflets from the Nationalist Social Club, rooted in Boston, declared a stand "for the security and prosperity of white New Englanders." On Market Street in downtown Hartford on April 16, people representing to be group members held banners that read, "White Lives Matter," "Defend New England," and "Defend White Lives."

"It was incredibly close to the University of Hartford," Joyner, a New Haven native, said. "That's less than 10 minutes from where we all sleep. It's scary to think about, and it's simply because of the color of my skin. It's ridiculous."

Joyner carried a sign with a clear message for white supremacist groups: "Stop pretending your racism is patriotism."

The Nationalist Social Club is defined by the Anti-Defamation League as a neo-Nazi group with regional chapters in the U.S. and abroad.

What concerns Ivelisse Correa, chief executive of Black Lives Matter 860, the organizer of Sunday's rally and march, are "the people that will listen to them."

"So, there are remote pockets of the state that would support them, and those remote pockets of the state do not have a minority presence, or a very small percentage," Correa said.

A larger, statewide rally is planned for Saturday at the state Capitol at noon, Correa said.

Sunday's event in Hartford began with a brief rally at the west entrance to Keney

Park, with a march stepping off on Woodland Street. Correa and others at the head of the march carried a banner emblazoned with "No Hate, No KKK, No Fascist USA."

The march proceeded down the center of Albany Avenue and then turned up Edgewood Street.

Midway, along Edgewood Street, Neftali Serrano poked his head and torso outside a window on the first floor of one house and raised a fist over his head in solidarity.

"It's showing the people in the community that Black lives matter, all race lives matter," Serrano said in an interview a short time later.

"It's awesome."

The 30-minute march wrapped up along Greenfield Street, returning to the park entrance.

The Rev. Shawn Fisher, pastor of the Bloomfield Congregational Church, said he and a dozen or so of the church's parishioners decided to join the rally and march, many of them involved in a program getting at how to end racism.

Fisher, wearing a black clerical robe and red stole, said the group has been learning about white privilege and hate organizations.

"And more about the things we need to know about each other and ourselves," Fisher said. "Our church is a very diverse congregation, age-wise, race-wise, culture-wise and gender identity-wise. So we've been having these conversations, and we were ready to take that next step of action."

Fisher said it was critical for people who aren't being attacked — himself one of them as a middle-class, white male — to stand by those who are oppressed.

"To let them know we will stand beside them — not in front, not behind them, right beside them," Fisher said. "They are our neighbors. They are people who matter. We're not going to put up with people who we care about and people that we love being attacked, oppressed and harassed for who they are."

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## PETS UP FOR ADOPTION



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### Sheikh

**S**heikh is a young cat with a disability. He is paralyzed from the waist down, but he gets around fine. He does need to wear a diaper to avoid accidents. He was rescued from the streets of Kuwait a few months ago. Sheikh along with other kittens were brought to the USA on an 8,000-mile flight in hopes of finding them homes. You can come meet him to decide if he is right for your family. If interested, call AFOC at 860-693-0303.

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*Please include a photo, a description of the pet including age and personality, and contact information including an email address and a phone number.*



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# LIVING

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## NOW PLAYING

**'ALINE':** There's an episode of "30 Rock" that features the character Jenna Maroney announcing she's been cast in an unauthorized Janis Joplin biopic, but since the filmmakers don't have the rights to Joplin's life, Maroney is playing a Joplin-like character named "Jackie Jomp-Jomp." But what was a silly gag for the NBC comedy has now become real, in the form of "Aline," the unauthorized biopic "inspired by" the life of French Canadian singing superstar Celine Dion. The film follows the life of Aline Dieu, the youngest of 13 children, a child prodigy who takes the world by storm with her powerful voice, falls in love with and marries her much older manager, sings the most famous movie song in the world, and takes up a residency in Vegas, while mothering her three boys, including twins, and reckoning with the mortality of her older husband. It's the Celine Dion story, with a few names changed, and a couple of snippets of her most famous songs — fairly standard biopic fare. In French with English subtitles. 2:08. 2 1/2 stars. — *Katie Walsh, Tribune News Service*

**'ALL THE OLD KNIVES':** In "All the Old Knives," ex-lovers and spies Henry and Celia meet for dinner in an upscale California beach town. They reminisce, haltingly, but this is no ordinary get-together. Celia (Thandie Newton) left the job years ago and shed her ties to the CIA in favor of marriage and children; Henry (Chris Pine) is still on the job and he has been tasked with investigating a deadly airline hijacking from nearly a decade back, when they were both based out of Vienna. Turns

out, there was a leak that sabotaged their efforts for a better outcome. Over sips of wine, fine dining and subtle mutual interrogation, this reunion is meant to shed light on the mole's identity. Who double-crossed whom? 1:41. 1 1/2 stars. Streaming on Amazon Prime Video. — *Nina Metz, Chicago Tribune*

**'FANTASTIC BEASTS: THE SECRETS OF DUMBLEDORE':**

The third installment in the "Harry Potter" prequel franchise, "Fantastic Beasts: The Secrets of Dumbledore," arrives four years after the second film, "Fantastic Beasts: The Crimes of Grindelwald." The plot concerns Grindelwald's grasps at power in the magical world because he essentially wants to start a race war with the muggles (humans). Set in the 1930s (or thereabouts), the fascist vibes are thick in the air as the motley crew of Albus Dumbledore (Jude Law), magizoologist Newt Scamander (Eddie Redmayne), Newt's brother Theseus (Callum Turner), Hogwarts professor Lally Hicks (Jessica Williams), and muggle baker Jacob (Dan Fogler) set out to foil Grindelwald's plans by confusing his visions of the future. Does the plan work? Not really, but honestly, who's to say? After all the running around they still end up at some rigged election in Bhutan in which a magical creature will select the "pure of heart" to lead the magical world, if anyone still cares. There is nothing of consequence that occurs in this movie, as everyone involved seems to be going through the motions in order to cash a check and fulfill their obligations. 2:22. 1 1/2 stars. — *Katie Walsh*

**'FATHER STU':** "Father Stu"? He's not a regular priest, he's a cool priest. A priest who swears, a priest with a history of boozing and boxing. That's the story told, at least by the film's poster, which features a diptych of star Mark Wahlberg, looking rough and rueful in a mug shot, and then beatific in Catholic clergy apparel. The journey between the two photos is the dominion of "Father Stu," the directorial debut of Rosalind Ross, who also wrote the screenplay, though there's more to the story of Catholic priest Stuart Long. There is a profound grace to be found in "Father Stu," when everyone gets out of the way to let the message of suffering as spirituality just breathe. But one can't help but feel like that comes too little and too late to have any significant impact. 2:04. 2 stars. — *Katie Walsh*

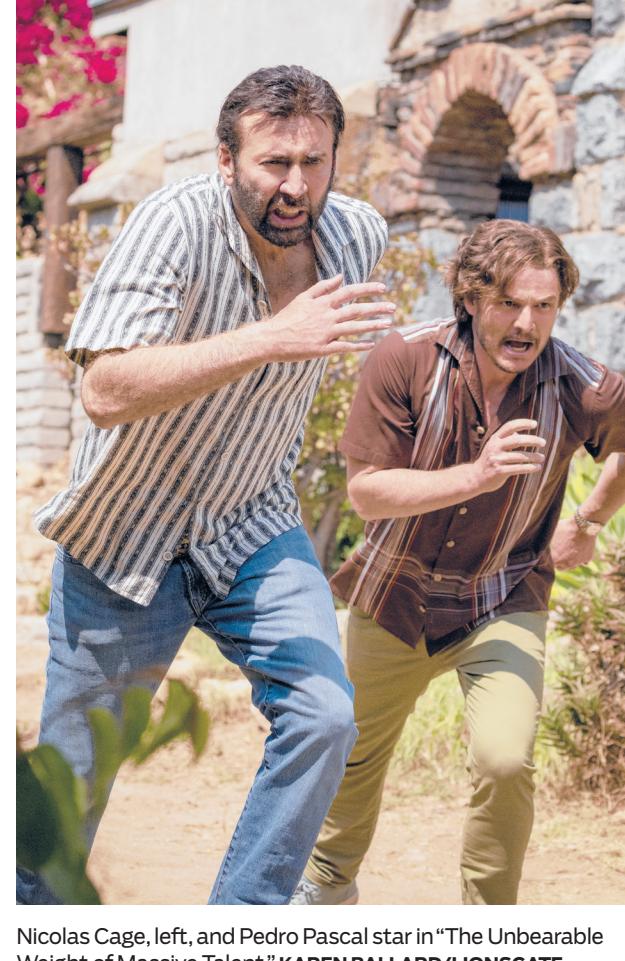
**'THE NORTHMEN':** In 1982, "Conan the Barbarian" enticed audiences with a poster promising four phases of a rough man's rough life: "Thief. Warrior. Gladiator. King." "The Northmen," which wanders narratively but, as cinema, basically eats "Conan" for breakfast, follows what might be considered a similar career path: Prince, followed by Slave, then Viking Marauder, and finally Newly Sensitized Lover and Potential Family Man. Alexander Skarsgård takes the title role, as well as taking a fair bit of on-screen punishment en route to a climactic battle at the Gates of Hel (one "I" in this hell, for the record). There, at Hel, Amleth, played by Skarsgård, wields his mighty sword against his kingdom-usurping uncle (Claes Bang) surrounded by rivers

of flaming molten lava. They're nude, discreetly silhouetted, and as in much of "The Northman" the scene's melding of digital and practical effects and design strategies doesn't lead to the usual fantasy generic. Robert Eggers creates worlds that used to be, or never were, but thanks to his chosen medium, there they are, vivid and alive. 2:16. 3 stars. — *Michael Phillips, Chicago Tribune*

**'SONIC THE HEDGEHOG 2':**

Based on the Sega video game franchise about a speedy blue creature, "Sonic the Hedgehog" raced into theaters in 2020. A mix of live-action and digital animation, "Sonic" was a reasonably fun family friendly adventure that benefited from a wonderful voice performance from Ben Schwartz as the heroic Sonic and generally enjoyable cartoonish shenanigans from Jim Carrey as his nemesis, the villainous Dr. Robotnik. With "Sonic the Hedgehog 2," we get a sequel that is, of course, bigger. And, unfortunately, longer. In the movie's production notes, producer Toby Ascher speaks of efforts to create a "Sonic cinematic universe," because, we can only assume, the world has too few cinematic universes at this point. Well, guys, if we are to see more of Blue Justice and his buddies, a little less may prove to be a bit more next time. 2:02. 2 stars. — *Mark Meszoros, Willoughby News-Herald*

**'THE UNBEARABLE WEIGHT OF MASSIVE TALENT':** Now 58, with nearly 100 film credits since he was "Brad's bud" in "Fast Times at Ridgemont High" in 1982, Nicolas Cage has handled a lion's share of money grabs



Nicolas Cage, left, and Pedro Pascal star in "The Unbearable Weight of Massive Talent." KAREN BALLARD/LIONSGATE

in a career distinguished by a gratifying number of movies worth seeing, often just for him. Good material, bad material, big-budget studio clangers, low-budget indies on wry: The man does not coast. The central gag in the occasionally funny action-comedy "The Unbearable Weight of Massive Talent" imagines Cage, playing a variation on himself named Nick Cage at a career impasse. Divorced, with a tenuous, tetchy relationship with a (fictional) teenage daughter played by Lily Mo Sheen, the movie's version of Cage has run up a \$600,000 tab at a fancy Los Angeles hotel and needs a job. His agent, Fink (Neil Patrick Harris), comes through with a prospect: For a cool, gallingly easy million, his client is to attend a super

rich Cage fan's birthday party on the island of Mallorca, Spain. There Cage will be the special guest star, required only to small-talk about his career, get some sun and sweat his future. Through it all, Cage gives his all, which hardly needed saying. He takes on two roles, plus a cameo, playing "himself"; a pushy, digitally de-aged '90s version of himself, named "Nicky"; and a peppy, aged Italian crime boss with terrible fashion sense. Cage never stops trying things, whether its eccentric physical details or idiosyncratically timed punchlines. 1:47. 2 stars. — *Michael Phillips*

**RATINGS:** The movies listed are rated according to the following key: 4 stars, excellent; 3 stars, good; 2 stars, fair; 1 star, poor.

### CELEBRITIES

## Rosalia 'very excited' about new tour

From news services

Rosalia spent three years working on her acclaimed third studio album, "Motomami." Now she's ready to take the music on an upcoming world tour, with stops in her native Spain, Mexico, Europe and New York's famed Radio City Music Hall.

The Grammy-winning sensation has announced her "Motomami World Tour," which will see her perform 46 concerts in 15 countries beginning July 6 in Spain and closing in Paris on Dec. 18.

"There isn't a day that I don't train, there isn't a day that I don't study all of this," the singer-songwriter, 29, said from Miami as she prepares to spend almost half a year on the road.

"But I'm very excited. I've always really liked traveling, and in the end I feel that being able to go to other countries also keeps me inspired, keeps me making music, because I hope to continue writing songs during the tour," she added.

Transferring a project as ambitious and varied as "Motomami" to the stage has been "a very exciting challenge" for Rosalia. She said this stage show will be very different from her 2019 tour, which included 40-plus concerts on both sides of the Atlantic.

**Scorsese foundation launches virtual theater:** Film Foundation, the nonprofit founded by Martin Scorsese dedicated to film preservation, is launching a virtual theater to stream classic films free of charge.

The film organization announced Friday that the Film Foundation Restoration Screening Room will launch May 9 with the presentation of "I Know Where I'm Going!" Michael Powell and Emeric Pressburger's



Singer Rosalia has announced her "Motomami World Tour," with stops in 15 countries. JORDAN STRAUSS/INVISION 2020

Scotland-set romance that was recently restored by the Film Foundation and the British Film Institute's National Archive.

The screening room will present films in a live-event manner, with movies playing at a specific time and accompanied by introductions and conversations.

"We're looking forward to making these beautiful restorations available to a wide audience," Scorsese, Film Foundation founder and chair, said in a statement. "Many of these presentations will feature restorations that are rarely seen, with myself and other filmmakers sharing why these films are important, how they have impacted our lives and why it's crucial that they be preserved."

**North Dakota renews pact with Duhamel:** Actor Josh Duhamel will continue to promote his home state

of North Dakota. North Dakota's tourism agency recently confirmed that the star of several "Transformers" movies will be paid \$75,000 to be the face of the state's tourism campaign for the next two years. Duhamel already has earned more than \$1 million since 2013 to help lure visitors to North Dakota.

Duhamel is from Minot, a city in the north-central part of the state that's about an hour's drive from the United States border with Canada.

**April 25 birthdays:** Actor Al Pacino is 82. TV judge Len Goodman is 78. Bassist Stu Cook is 77. Actor Talia Shire is 77. Actor Jeffrey DeMunn is 75. Actor Hank Azaria is 58. Guitarist Rory Feek is 57. Journalist Jane Clayson is 55. Actor Gina Torres is 53. Actor Renee Zellweger is 53. Actor Jason Lee is 52. Actor Allison Snyder is 26.



## ASK AMY

By Amy Dickinson

askamy@amydickinson.com Twitter@askingamy

### For advice shopper, the answer is alienation

**Dear Amy:** My psychiatrist suggested I write to you because none of the professionals we've consulted have an answer.

I had two children with a selfish, emotionally abusive man. I divorced him at my psychologist's suggestion so my children would not see and experience his awful behavior.

I had custody of the children. His few opportunities for visitation were lost due to his abuse. When the kids were older, he got visitation and spent most of the time trying to turn the kids against me.

My daughter was able to forgive him when she was an adult. My son, however, caved to his pressure and has not had any contact with me in 20 years.

My daughter maintains a close relationship with her brother to this day.

My son is getting married. He evidently believes I might show up and make a scene, even though I have not been invited. My daughter is going to be in the wedding, but won't tell me about it.

I moved across the country to be with her and her kids.

I'm the good mom — the extra good mom that did everything. My ex-husband is a bad man. He's made my son a bad man.

Why is my daughter participating in their family events, while I'm the one babysitting her kids? Shouldn't she stop enabling this hate campaign against me?

— Wondering

**Dear Wondering:** You seem to be advice-shopping, and I assume your psychiatrist is recommending that you ask my opinion because

your practice is to reject the advice you've been given and go on the hunt for a different answer.

I assume you have researched "parental alienation," and if so, you will see that your son's attitude toward you might be the result of his father's behavior. However, in my opinion, you are also practicing a form of this, in your attempt to force your daughter to align completely with you.

It should not be your job to advocate for you in such a challenging situation. She is doing what many children of toxic divorces do: She is adjusting her scuba mask and wading in, trying her hardest to get her own needs met without being figuratively dashed against the rocks by an angry parent.

You paint yourself as "the good mom" and your ex and son as "bad men," and as long as you see the world in such absolutes, your daughter will be forced to behave this way. You should never expect a child to renounce a parent, because that parent is a part of them.

If you don't want to babysit your grandchildren, don't! But don't use them as further ammunition in your ongoing war against your ex.

**Dear Amy:** My dad and his wife live in Texas. I live in Florida.

My father and stepmother, "Darcy," have been married for 40 years.

Neither of them work, and they are always home together.

Every time I speak to my father, Darcy is in the background making comments and offering unwanted

opinions regarding what we are trying to talk about.

My dad ignores it, but it is so irritating and disruptive that it makes me not want to talk to him.

Any advice?

— Frustrated Son

**Dear Son:** You should assume that when you and your father speak by phone, your conversation isn't private, even if "Darcy" isn't in the background, weighing in. If you want to communicate with your father uninterrupted, a weekly email exchange might work best.

It is challenging to talk to two people on the phone at the same time. You might want to start your calls by talking to Darcy and expressing an interest in her doings. Then you could ask, "Dad, could you step into the other room? I'd love to talk privately for a few minutes."

**Dear Amy:** Thank you so much for your response to "Bay Area Stepmom Cook," who refused to omit onions from her dishes, even though her stepdaughter's husband had an aversion to them.

My mother-in-law respected my aversion to garlic. It was just like you said: Every time she left out the garlic (or served me separately), I honestly did feel loved.

— Garlucked

**Dear Garlucked:** I've received a huge response to this question. Thank you.

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## TV REVIEW

# 'Russian Doll' didn't need it, but pulls off 2nd season beautifully

**By Robert Lloyd**  
Los Angeles Times

Given how firmly it closed its circular plot, and the relatively peculiar particulars of its narrative — “relatively” since it ran on an engine oft-lifted from “Groundhog Day” — it’s somewhat surprising to see a second season of “Russian Doll,” the excellence of its 2019 first season notwithstanding. In that fairy tale of New York — described by Natasha Lyonne’s character as “the one about the broken man and the lady with a death wish that got stuck in a loop” — Nadia (Lyonne) and her spookily entangled metaphysical twin, Alan (Charlie Barnett), keep dying until life looks better. It’s a Borscht Belt Samsara story, with an ending so beautifully landed one wonders what more could possibly be said.

But nothing succeeds a success like a stab at another success, and a second season is here, with Lyonne taking over as showrunner (previous showrunner Leslie Headland and Amy Poehler are her co-creators), and it does the job ably and elegantly. Stylistically and philosophically consistent with its predecessor, it’s different enough to not feel like a calculating retread; as before, it’s admirable in its ingenuity, a little radical and deeply felt in ways that are not radical at all.

Season two, which begins 10 days shy of Nadia’s 40th birthday — the first season repeatedly began on the night of her 36th — moves on by digging in, focusing on a few undeveloped points from season one and fleshing out a back story. There is the mental illness of Nadia’s mother, Nora, played by Chloe Sevigny;



Natasha Lyonne stars as Nadia in "Russian Doll." NETFLIX

the Krugerrand Nadia wears on a chain around her neck, the last remnant of a family legacy and a symbol of loss; and the fact that her grandmother is a Holocaust survivor. These storylines reflect the way the stories we inherit are often incomplete, shaped by the limitations or the intentions of the teller, and the essential business of the new season for Nadia is filling in the gaps.

There are circles in the new season, but they are overlapping circles, arranged in four dimensions and connected by a space-time wormhole in the shape of the New York subway’s No. 6 train, which will carry Nadia and Alan here and there and then into the lives that made their lives. Like most time-travel tales, it involves trying to change the present by changing the past, but it is not saying too much that what the universe wants to change is the time travelers. The expanded canvas enlarges the field of investigation — as before, this is a sort of detective story — which grows geographically as well, to encompass Berlin and Budapest, Hungary. Charlie’s (less than) half of the story, which involves his Ghanaian grandmother

and interesting suggestions gender-wise, can feel a little abbreviated, but its points are made, and he is there in the clutch. Nadia’s godmother, Ruth (Elizabeth Ashley), whose years of smoking may be catching up with her, is very much in the mix, with Greta Lee’s Maxine, liberated from endlessly throwing Nadia’s birthday party, getting more things to do and places to go.

Ultimately, it’s helpful to regard the series, especially in the whipsaw transitions of its beautiful last movements, as musical or poetic. “Russian Doll” turns somersaults to get where it’s going, but its conclusions are emotionally unambiguous and universally useful and consonant with the previous season’s themes of attachment and surrender. The show is smart without ever being too smart for its own good. And if its sentimental streak is leavened with skepticism, sentiment is what makes “Russian Doll” valuable and skepticism what keeps the sentiment bearable. It’s the tension between the two effects that makes relief, when it comes, so very powerful.

**How to watch:** Netflix

## HOROSCOPES

Tarot.com

**Aries (March 21-April 19):** Your intuition can guide you today. It might seem like there is no right answer. That said, you could discover that giving yourself some much-needed rest should clear your mind. Find your true path by getting in touch with your spiritual side.

**Taurus (April 20-May 20):** An opportunity to shine may fall into your lap! A friend or family member could motivate you, but you don’t know what to do right now. Your loved ones can lift you up because they see something great in you, but you have to do the work as well. Instead of pushing back, rise up.

**Gemini (May 21-June 20):** Something you’ve been keeping a secret could be ready for its big reveal. While you may be nervous about how this will be perceived, that doesn’t mean you should wait. Now might be your opportunity to stop holding things inside. Let everyone hear what’s on your mind!

**Cancer (June 21-July 22):** The company you keep might have some wisdom to share. While you may not be expecting this, this person could want to offer you some help. However, they might not be able to if your head is in the clouds. You can expand your own mind by listening to the people around you.

**Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):**

The universe wants you to have a good time with the people you love. The younger people in your life may be more willing to open up to you, so make sure that you’re there for them when they reach out.

You might be the only person who is interested in what they have to say.

**Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** It’s easier to put yourself and others on a healthier path today. This is a good time for you and your family to start new habits and inspire each other. It doesn’t have to be a complete overhaul — a step in a positive direction is all it takes to enjoy life together more. Motivate yourself and your family.

**Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):** A little vacation can inspire you. Since you’re likely due for a change of scenery, try going on a walk in a park that you haven’t been to before or taking a shopping trip where you’re sure to walk for a good while. Do something that invigorates you, as this will get you inspired!

**Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):** Staying grounded is vital. You may have been too focused on the future or daydreams, and now it’s time to return to your real life. Family members may have advice for you on how to put down roots. See how they created security and compare it to what you want for your future.

**Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20):** You may want to tell people more about who you are. If you’re unsure of how to present your ideas, try to focus on connecting with people. Approaching new connections by attempting to seem impressive or praising them to make them like you won’t work.

## TODAY IN HISTORY

Associated Press

**On April 25, 404 B.C.,** the Peloponnesian War ended.

**In 1859,** ground was broken for the Suez Canal.

**In 1898,** the United States Congress declared war on

Spain; the 10-week conflict resulted in an American victory.

**In 1901,** New York Gov. Benjamin Barker Odell Jr. signed an automobile registration bill which imposed a 15 mph speed limit on highways.

**In 1945,** during World War II, U.S. and Soviet forces linked up on the Elbe River; a meeting that

dramatized the collapse of Nazi Germany’s defenses.

**In 2002,** Lisa “Left Eye” Lopes of the Grammy-winning trio TLC died in an SUV crash in Honduras.

**In 2019,** former Vice President Joe Biden entered the Democratic presidential race, declaring the fight against Donald Trump to be a “battle for the soul of this nation.”

## RISK OF PREDIABETES:

1 IN 3 ADULTS

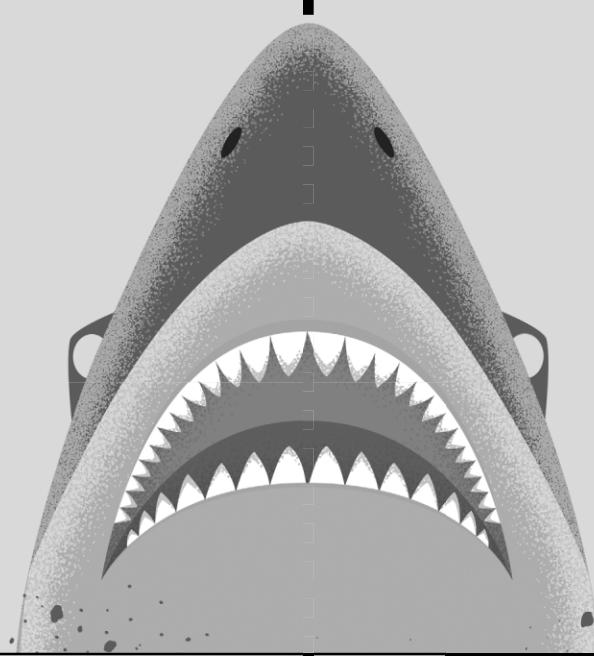


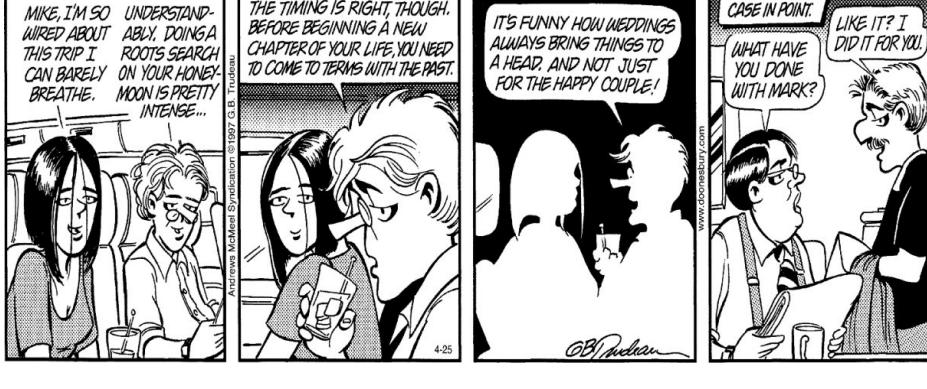
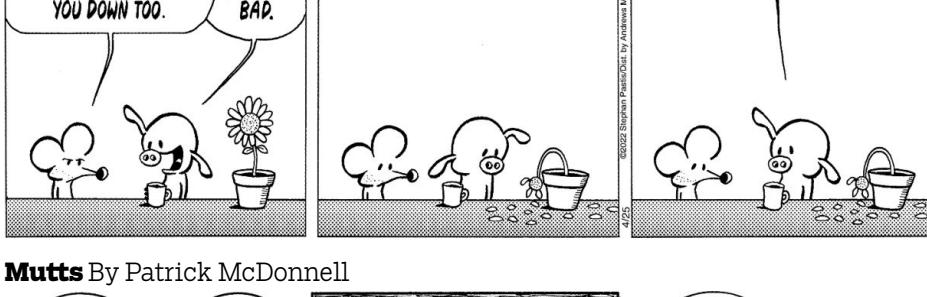
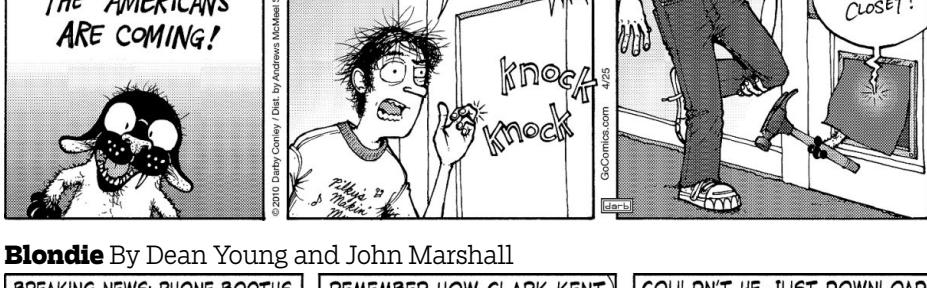
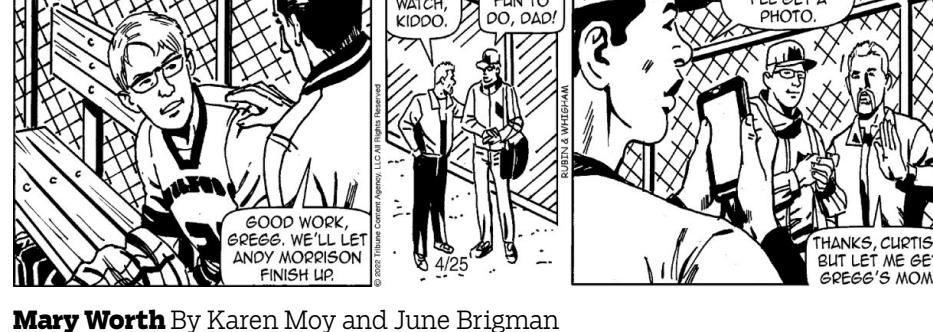
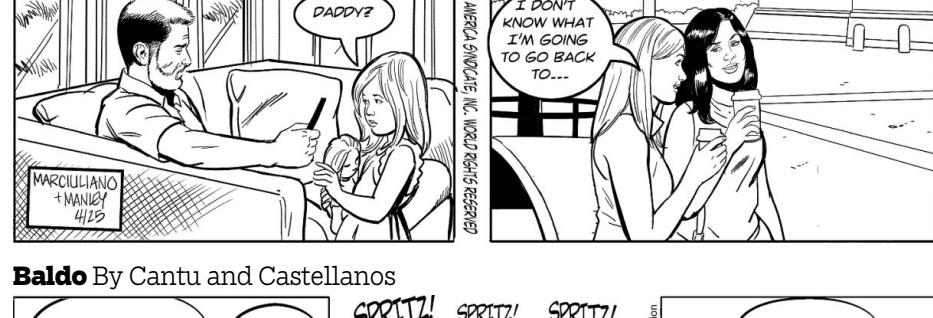
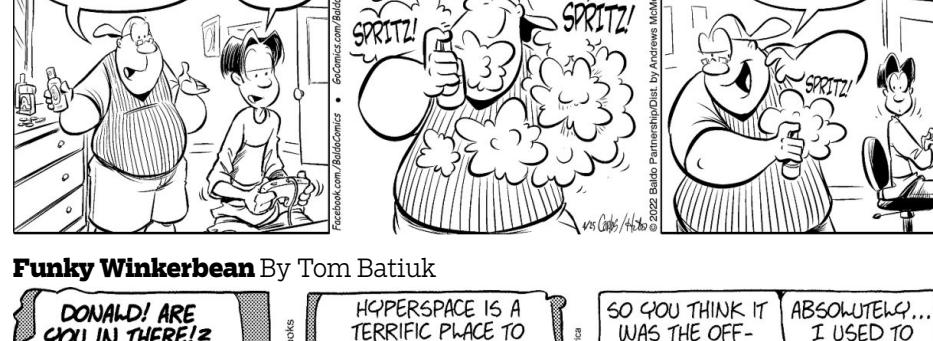
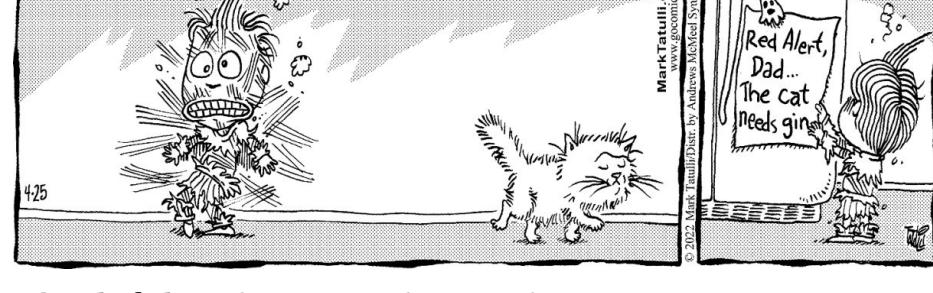
LIFE DOESN'T ALWAYS GIVE YOU TIME TO CHANGE THE OUTCOME.  
PREDIABETES DOES.

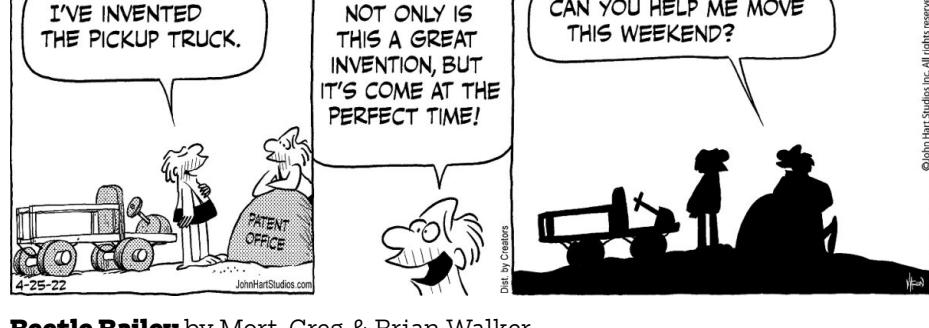
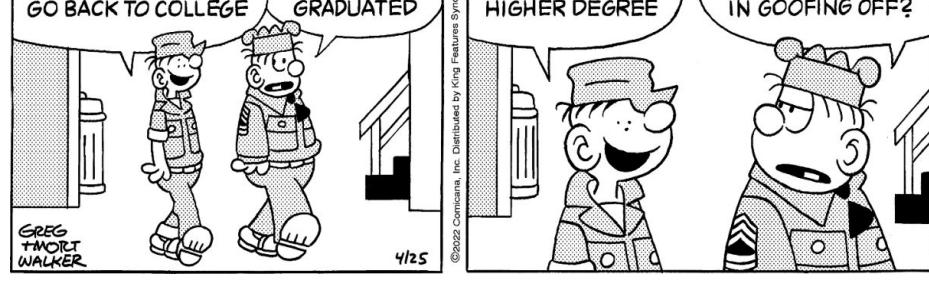
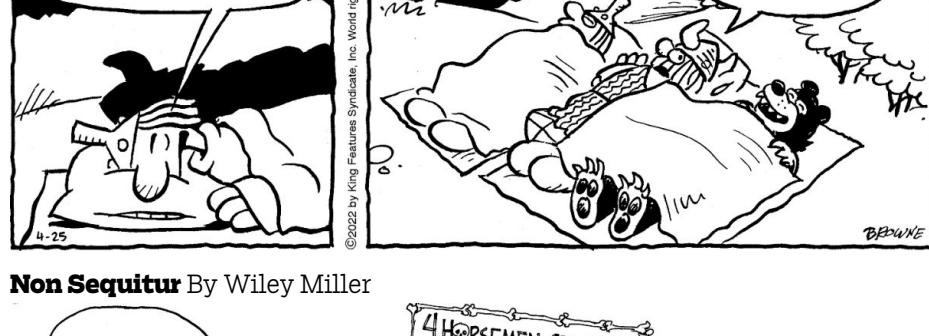
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**For Better Or For Worse** By Lynn Johnston**B.C.** By Hart**Beetle Bailey** by Mort, Greg & Brian Walker**Hi & Lois** By Greg and Brian Walker and Chance Browne**Hagar The Horrible** By Chris Browne**Non Sequitur** By Wiley Miller**Curtis** By Ray Billingsley**Pickles** By Brian Crane**Zits** By Jerry Scott and Jim Borgman**Rose Is Rose** By Pat Brady and Don Wimmer**Mother Goose And Grimm** By Mike Peters**CROSSWORD**

EDITED BY RICH NORRIS AND JOYCE NICHOLS LEWIS

**Across**

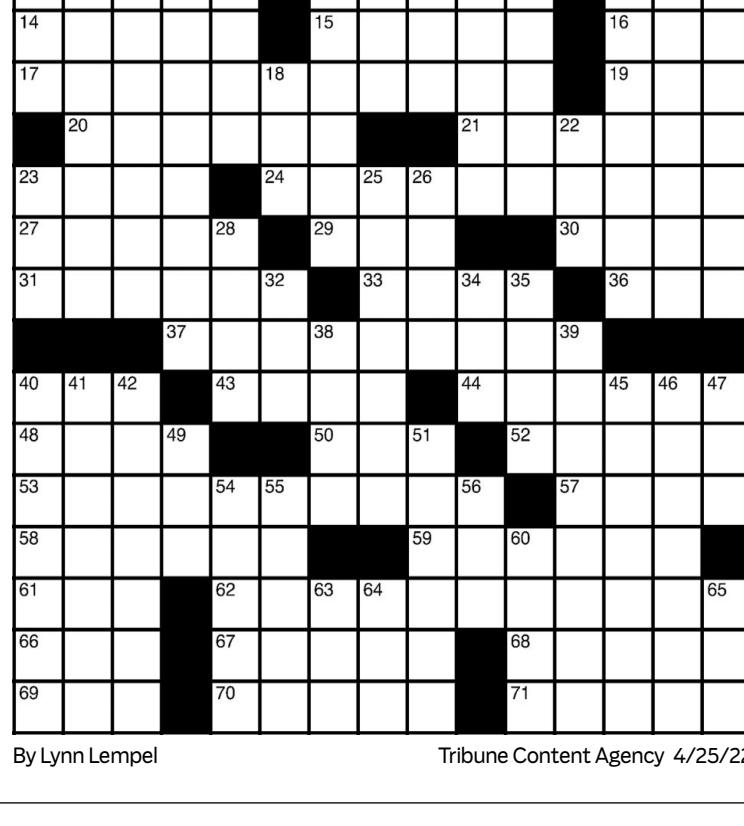
1 Reminders of past surgeries  
6 Starting squad  
11 Lousy  
14 Three-time WNBA All-Star Quigley  
15 Scrapbook adhesive  
16 Deeply regret  
17 \*Important figure in sports betting  
19 Ideological suffix  
20 Loafer adornment  
21 Isn't honest with  
23 Cherry bomb's "stem"  
24 \*Party pooper  
27 Twisable cookies  
29 Sailor's realm  
30 "Chicago" actor Richard  
31 Consequence  
33 Adapter letters  
36 Journalist Koppel  
37 \*Record submitted to payroll  
40 Yoga surface  
43 White part of a citrus rind  
44 Marshy ground  
48 Guinness who was the first to play Obi-Wan Kenobi  
50 "Chicago P.D." extra  
52 Region of ancient Mesopotamia  
53 \*Paper for doodling  
57 Pixar film featuring a guitar-playing boy  
58 Force into action

59 Chair for a new parent  
61 Sushi-grade tuna  
62 Does a daily chore using the elements at the ends of the answers to the starred clues  
66 Turn bad  
67 Show to be true  
68 Mighty mad  
69 Sudsy quaff  
70 Softens  
71 Donkeys

**Down**

1 Sticky tree stuff  
2 Debate-ending procedure in the Senate  
3 False names  
4 Wash lightly  
5 Adjusts, as a clock  
6 Fruit for cider

22 U.K. language  
23 Word on a gift tag  
25 Spot for steeped beverages  
26 Composer J.S. \_\_  
28 Lingerie item  
32 "OMG! Stop talking!"  
34 FDR or JFK, partywise  
35 Corporate VIPs



By Lynn Lempel

Tribune Content Agency 4/25/22

**BRIDGE**

BY STEVE BECKER

North dealer.  
East-West vulnerable.**NORTH**♦ 10 7 6 3  
♥ ♠ A K 8 5 2  
♦ 9 8 4  
♣ A**WEST**♠ K 5  
♥ J 3  
♦ K 10 7 2  
♣ 10 9 6 4 3**EAST**♠ Q 9 6  
♦ A Q J 5  
♣ K J 8 7 5 2**SOUTH**♠ A Q J 9 8 4 2  
♥ 10 7 4  
♦ 6 3  
♣The bidding:  
North East South West

1 ♠ 2 ♣ 2 ♠ 3 ♠

3 ♠ 4 ♣ 4 ♠

Opening lead — ten of clubs.

**Famous Hand**

Today's deal arose in a high-level team contest in 1999. It features a play that would occur to very few players.

At both tables, the contract was four spades. It might seem, in looking at all four hands, that declarer must go down one, losing two diamonds, a heart and a spade — and that is exactly what happened when the deal was first played.

South won the opening club lead with dummy's ace and led a spade. When East showed out, declarer put up the ace and, for lack of anything better to do, led another spade. West won and shifted to a diamond, whereupon the defenders collected their two diamond tricks and played a third diamond, ruffed by South. East later scored a heart trick to sink the contract.

At the other table, after the same opening lead, the declarer, Margaret Williams, found an elegant way to give herself an extra chance if she had to lose a spade trick. Instead of leading a spade at trick two, she led a diamond!

At first blush, one might wonder what possible difference this could make, but the answer was soon forthcoming. In practice, East won the diamond with the ace and continued with the queen and another diamond, ruffed by South.

Williams now played the ace of spades and, upon learning that she had a trump loser, cashed the A-K of hearts before conceding a spade to West's king. West then had to return a diamond or a club, allowing South to discard her remaining heart as she ruffed in dummy, and the contract was home.

Observe that once declarer led a diamond at trick two, there was nothing the defenders could do to defeat her. If they shifted to a heart after taking the first diamond, Williams would win, play a second diamond, win the heart return and ruff a diamond to achieve the same position.

**Tomorrow:** Think first, play later.**JUMBLE**

BY DAVID HOYT AND JEFF KNUREK

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

NHUCK

NNOOI

ELHOBD

RDOAPN

I really appreciate how honest you've been telling us about yourself.

I don't want to be one.

I write mysteries as a hobby.

When the author answered every question asked, she was being ---.

Saturday's Jumbles: EVENT HOUSE THRIVE FILLET

Answer: He proposed with a self-made Jumble, and she said yes after seeing all the — LOVE LETTERS

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Ans. here:

(Answers tomorrow)

Saturday's Jumbles: EVENT HOUSE THRIVE FILLET

Answer: He proposed with a self-made Jumble, and she said yes after seeing all the — LOVE LETTERS

**TODAY'S SUDOKU**

							1	2
4	6			1			5	
8			9		6	7		
		9	2					
	5			7				
			3	7				
9	3	5		6	7			
6	1		9	8				
2	7							

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit [www.sudoku.org.uk](http://www.sudoku.org.uk).**ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE**A T R A M E S A S M A A M  
W H A T C A N I D O A N T E  
R E C O R D D E A L G Y R E  
Y A Y M E G P A I T I S  
S E C R E T R E C I P EM O T P U T S P A S M  
A R R E S T E D A T H E N S  
R E E L A S I A N O N E A  
G O E S O N O V E R W O R KH E D D A I L O W O E  
C R O W D P L E A S E R  
U H U H A T M P I N E S  
B O S E S A M P L E S A L EE D E R T R Y T O R E L A X  
S A S E E S S A Y S A L T

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Ans. here:

(Answers tomorrow)

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Ans. here:

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Saturday's Jumbles: EVENT HOUSE THRIVE FILLET

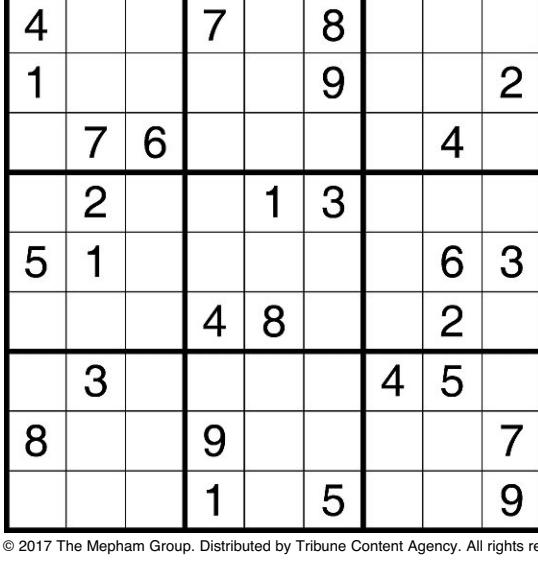
# BONUS PUZZLE PAGE

An extra array of word games, search and Jumble. Want more? Play online at [PlayJumble.com](http://PlayJumble.com)



Scan QR code to play online.

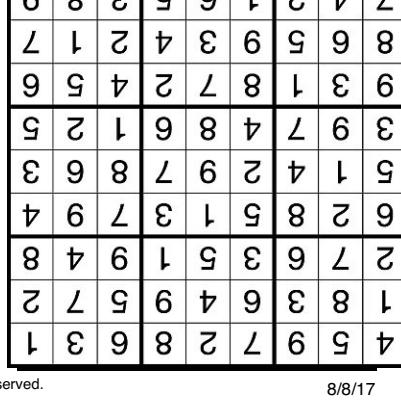
## SUDOKU



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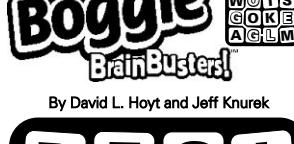
Level: **1 2 3 4**

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit [www.sudoku.org.uk](http://www.sudoku.org.uk).

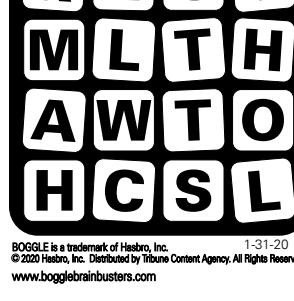


8/8/17

## BOGGLE



By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

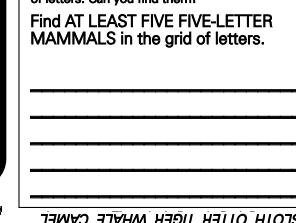


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[www.bogglebrainbusters.com](http://www.bogglebrainbusters.com)

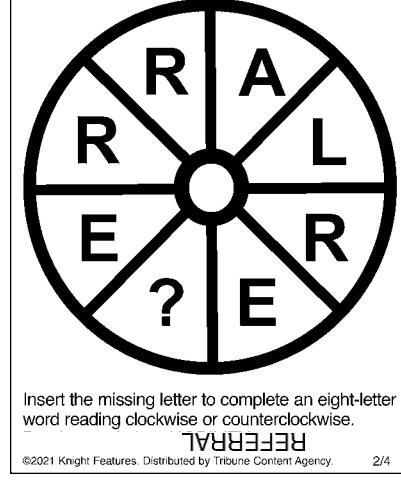
INSTRUCTIONS: Find as many words as you can by linking letters up, down, side-to-side and diagonally, writing words on a separate sheet of paper. You may use each letter box once within a single word. Play with a friend and compare word finds, crossing out common words.

BOGGLE POINT SCALE YOUR BOGGLE RATING  
3 letters = 1 point 151+ = Champ  
4 letters = 2 points 101-150 = Expert  
5 letters = 3 points 61-100 = Pro  
6 letters = 4 points 31- 60 = Gamer  
7 letters = 5 points 21- 30 = Rookie  
8 letters = 10 points 11- 20 = Amateur  
9+ letters = 15 points 0- 10 = Try again

Find AT LEAST FIVE FIVE-LETTER MAMMALS in the grid of letters.



SLOTH OTTER TIGER WHALE CAMEL

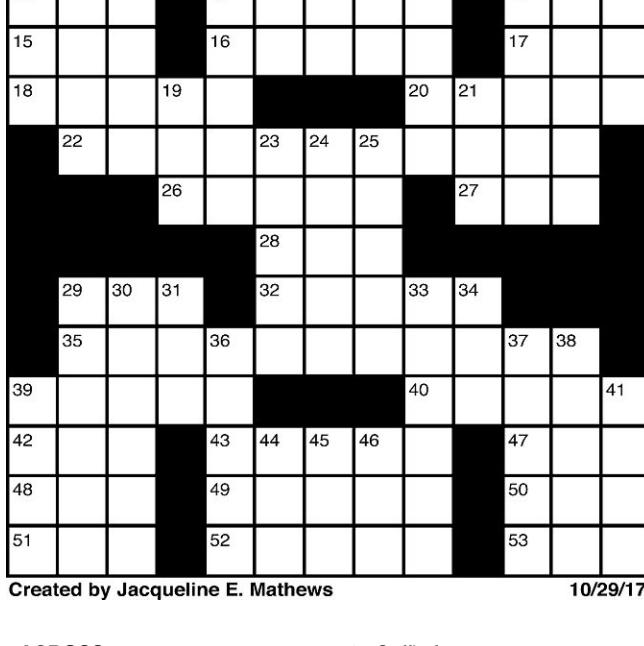


Insert the missing letter to complete an eight-letter word reading clockwise or counterclockwise.

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## TV CROSSWORD

by Jacqueline E. Mathews



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

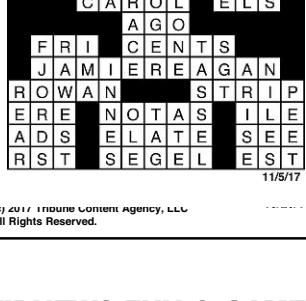
10/29/17

**ACROSS**

- Derek and Diddley
- Brolin of "Life in Pieces"
- Actor G. Carroll
- Colony insect
- Fraternity letter
- "Million Dollar \_\_\_"; Jon Hamm baseball movie
- "Hogan's Heroes" setting: abbr.
- Oscar hopeful
- Suffix for press or architect
- Former "America's Got Talent" judge Howard
- Hotchner; role on "Criminal Minds"
- Role on "CSI: Los Angeles"
- Burnett or Channing
- Ernie of golf
- Not long \_\_\_; recently
- Night we see "MacGyver": abbr.
- Pennies
- Role on "Blue Bloods"
- "\_\_\_ & Martin's Laugh-In"
- "77 Sunset \_\_\_"
- Before, to a poet
- "a Stranger"; Sinatra movie

**DOWN**

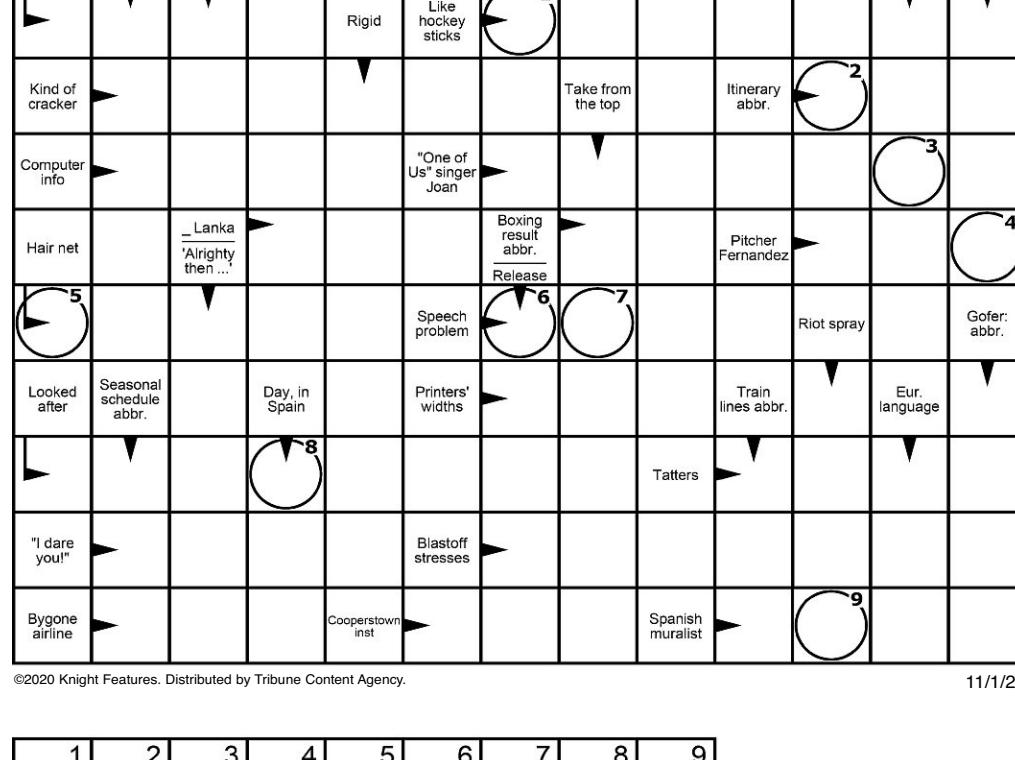
- Paper sacks
- "Well, you're a fine \_\_\_ talk!"
- Scatter
- Bob Loudon's wife on "Newhart"
- "Breaking Bad" network
- "How I \_\_\_ Your Mother"
- Sense of self-esteem
- Plastic wrap
- Hardy's buddy
- Mistakes
- "The \_\_\_", horror movie for Gregory Peck and Lee Remick
- \_\_\_ room; place for a pool table in the house
- "Avengers: \_\_\_ of Ultron"; Robert Downey Jr. film
- "Will & \_\_\_"
- Film critic Ebert
- "Home \_\_\_"; Macaulay Culkins movie
- Narrow Norwegian inlets
- Least cooked
- "Big Girl Now"
- Graduation cap dangler
- Joe Friday's title on "Dragnet": abbr.
- Actress Laura
- Get up
- Role on "Frasier"
- "Window"; James Stewart film
- Actress Amanda
- "Grand \_\_\_ Opry"
- Dog \_\_\_; military ID
- Dined



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## ARROW WORDS

Fill in the grid using the clues provided in the direction of the arrows. When complete, unscramble the letters in the circles to reveal a mystery word.

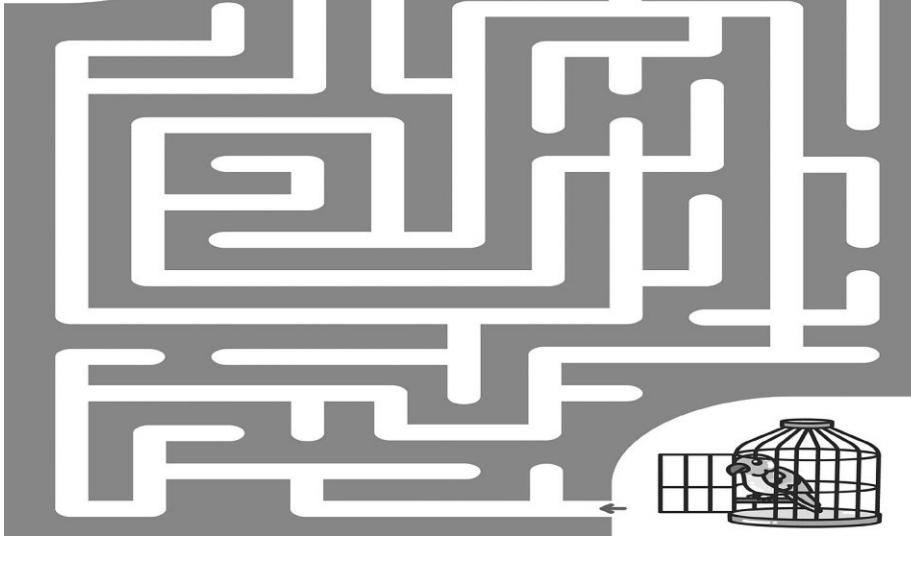


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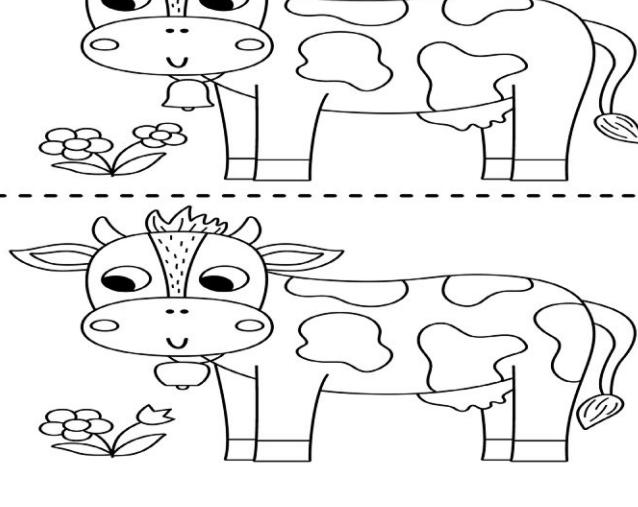
11/1/20

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

## KIDNEWS FUN & GAMES



## Spot 5 differences



Hartford Courant  
**SPORTS**

COURANT.COM/SPORTS

**NBA PLAYOFFS****Celtics defense has Durant questioning himself****By Mark Murphy**

Boston Herald

**NEW YORK** — With the Boston Celtics in position to close out the Brooklyn Nets in Game 4 of their first-round playoff series Monday night, they appear to have Kevin Durant right where they want him.

Durant focused on being a play-maker Saturday night in Game 3, trying to get his teammates more involved as the Celtics continued to successfully challenge his scoring opportunities.

On the way to scoring 16 points, he finished with only three more shot attempts (11) than assists (eight), attempted only three

3-pointers, making two, and turned the ball over five times, increasing his three-game total to 17.

The Nets star admitted that he felt as hesitant and confused as he looked, and that he was thinking too much. The flow had deserted his game. And from a Celtics perspective, things are working exactly as planned — better, probably, than they could have hoped for on the way to a 3-0 edge in the series.

"I would like to think that what we're doing is getting in his head and causing him to do the second-guessing," Celtics guard Marcus Smart said following a meeting at the team hotel Sunday. "You play against one of the greatest

players in this world to do this, you can't let him be comfortable. You have to have him second-guessing. It's a game of rhythm, runs, and we all know he can get into one of the greatest rhythms and runs all by himself, along with Kyrie (Irving). I would like to think we have something to do with that. I don't know how much of that we do have to take credit for. But we just have to continue to make it tough on him. If he's second-guessing himself, then we've done our job."

"It's going great, it's going exactly as we expected. For the most part, just because we believe in ourselves

*Turn to NBA, Page 2*



An aggressive Celtics defense has kept Nets star Kevin Durant from finding his rhythm in the first three games of their first-round playoff series. The Celtics try for the sweep Monday night in New York. MICHAEL Dwyer/AP

**YANKEES 10, GUARDIANS 2**

The Yankees' Anthony Rizzo, left, and Aaron Judge celebrate after a Rizzo home run against the Guardians on Sunday in New York. JESSIE ALCHEH/AP

**Yankees sweep Guardians in series blighted by fan issues****By Jake Seiner**

Associated Press

**NEW YORK** — In the foggy afterglow of the Yankees' postgame celebration, Gerrit Cole felt like he could exhale.

"Breathing is a good thing," he said with a smile. "Everybody can breathe today, right?"

Cole bounced back from the shortest start of his career, Anthony Rizzo powered a long-

awaited outburst from New York's lineup and the Yankees pounded the Cleveland Guardians 10-2 Sunday to complete a three-game sweep in a series marred by fan misbehavior.

Cole (1-0) struck out nine over 6 1/2 scoreless innings, and Rizzo's two-run drive in the first inning tied him for the AL lead with five homers. New York won for the fifth time in six games, improving to 10-6 despite early concerns about

their ineffective ace and a surprisingly punchless lineup.

The Yankees cranked up a fog machine, blasted loud music and celebrated their first sweep of the season in the clubhouse before taking a day off Monday.

"Just put a cherry on top, played a complete three games," Cole said.

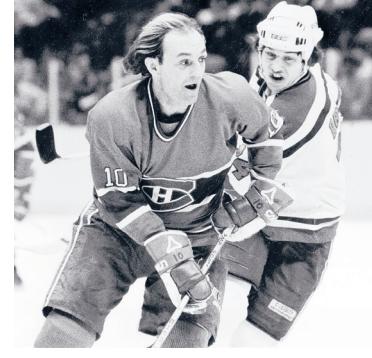
Cleveland outfielders struggled a day after fans threw bottles, cans and other debris at them immediately following New York's walk-

off victory Saturday. On Sunday, Myles Straw and Oscar Mercado were heckled after misplays, and breakout rookie Steven Kwan left early with right hamstring tightness.

The Yankees said they increased security in the stands Sunday, and fans appeared to refrain from more beverage tossing.

The Bronx's famed Bleacher

*Turn to Yankees, Page 2*



Guy Lafleur, left, who helped the Montreal Canadiens win five Stanley Cups in the 1970s, died Friday at age 70. BILL KOSTROUN/AP

**BRUINS****Bergeron pays tribute to Lafleur****By Steve Conroy**

Boston Herald

One of the many things that has endeared Patrice Bergeron to Boston Bruins fans over the years is that, though he is a French-speaking native of the province of Quebec, he was always a fan of the now defunct Nordiques as opposed to the hated Montreal Canadiens.

But for Bergeron, Guy Lafleur — a hero of the province who took

the torch from Jean Beliveau and Rocket Richard before him — transcended any team rivalries. And it didn't hurt that he finished his career with the Nordiques.

The Bruins' captain started off his morning presser with a tribute to Canadiens' great, who died Friday at the age of 70.

"He finished his career in Quebec with the Nordiques, and that's kind of what I remember. I was too young to remember his Montreal days. But I do remem-

ber his last game in the NHL in Quebec and the ceremony in Quebec. It's vague in my memories, but I still do remember it," the Quebec City native said Sunday morning. "He was my dad's favorite player growing up. So I heard a lot about him when I was coming up and playing hockey and some of the stories, some of the things he was able to do during his career. He was

*Turn to Bruins, Page 2*

**RAYS 5, RED SOX 2****McClanahan becomes first Rays starter to get a win this season****By Dick Scanlon**

Associated Press

**ST. PETERSBURG**, Fla. — Shane McClanahan became Tampa Bay's first starting pitcher to get a win this season as the Rays overcame a two-run, first-inning deficit and beat the Boston Red Sox 5-2 on Sunday.

After getting no hits in the first nine innings of Saturday night's 10-inning loss, the Red Sox got four hits on the first nine pitches McClanahan threw.

"He just filled up the strike zone early on, and they were ready for it," Rays manager Kevin Cash said. "But he settled in and gave us an outstanding performance."

Pinch hitter Ji-Man Choi had a tying, two-run double as the Rays rallied for three runs in the fifth.

Yandy Diaz, reinstated from the COVID-19 injured list, added a seventh-inning homer off Jake Diekman, helping send Boston to its fourth loss in five games.

McClanahan (1-1) gave up RBI singles to Kiké Hernández and Alex Verdugo in the first, then pitched shutout ball from the second through the sixth. He allowed six hits, struck out seven and walked none, becoming the first Rays pitcher to work seven innings since he did it on Aug. 7. His 86-pitch outing came a day after the Rays used seven pitchers in a 10-inning night game.

"I didn't want the bullpen to come in at all," McClanahan said. "I don't think I had the luxury of not having my best stuff or my best outing. That bullpen needed a rest today."

Colin Poche and Ryan Thompson followed with hitless relief, and Thompson got three outs for his second major league save, his first since Sept. 19, 2020. Tampa Bay's previous eight wins this year came from its bullpen.

Boston starter Rich Hill, activated from the bereavement/family medical emergency list, gave up four hits and three walks in four shutout innings that took 62 pitches.

"Give those guys credit. We're in a tough division, and it's going to be a tough division all year long," Hill said. "Obviously, we have work to do. Going up to Toronto is not going to be an easy series either, but we're fully capable of going on a nice run here."

Phillips Valdez (0-1) followed Hill and took his first big league defeat since 2020. He hit Randy Arozarena with a pitch, walked Wander Franco and then hit Diaz with a pitch, loading the bases with one out.

Choi, who has reached base in seven consecutive plate appearances as a pinch hitter, had a two-run double off Ryan Braisier.

"When he comes off the bench, you just think 100% of the time he's going to get a hit," Diaz said.

Kevin Kiermaier singled off Matt Barnes in the sixth and scored on Diekman's wild pitch.

**SPORTS****UP NEXT**

**Celtics:** NBA First Round at Nets (Game 4), Monday, 7 p.m.; NBA First Round vs. Nets (Game 5, if necessary), Wednesday, time TBD; NBA First Round at Nets (Game 6, if necessary), Friday, time TBD

**Nets:** NBA First Round vs. Celtics (Game 4), Monday, 7 p.m.; NBA First Round at Celtics (Game 5, if necessary), Wednesday, time TBD; NBA First Round vs. Celtics (Game 6, if necessary), Friday, time TBD

**Bruins:** Panthers, Tuesday, 7 p.m.; Sabres, Thursday, 7 p.m.; at Maple Leafs, Friday, 7 p.m.

**Rangers:** Hurricanes, Tuesday, 7 p.m.; Canadiens, Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.; Capitals, Friday, 7 p.m.

**Red Sox:** at Blue Jays, Monday, 7 p.m.; at Blue Jays, Tuesday, 7 p.m.; at Blue Jays, Wednesday, 7 p.m.

**Yankees:** Orioles, Tuesday, 7 p.m.; at Orioles, Wednesday, 7 p.m.; at Orioles, Thursday, 1 p.m.

**Mets:** at Cardinals, Monday, 7:45 p.m.; at Cardinals, Tuesday, 7:45 p.m.; at Cardinals, Wednesday, 1:15 p.m.

**Yard Goats:** at Harrisburg, Tuesday, 6 p.m.; at Harrisburg, Wednesday, 11 a.m.; at Harrisburg, Thursday, 6:30 p.m.

**TV/RADIO****BASEBALL**

**7 p.m.:** Red Sox at Blue Jays. (Live) NESN. Radio: 1080

**7:45 p.m.:** Mets at Cardinals. (Live) SNY. MLB. Radio: 880

**10 p.m.:** Regional Coverage. (Live) MLB

**BASKETBALL**

**7 p.m.:** Celtics at Nets. (Live) TNT

**8 p.m.:** Raptors at 76ers. (Live) NBA

**9:30 p.m.:** Jazz at Mavericks. (Live) TNT

**LACROSSE**

**3:30 p.m.:** Women's College Stony Brook at Yale. (Live) NESN

**SOCCER**

**6:25 a.m.:** Italian Serie B Ascoli vs AS Cittadella. (Live) FSP

**8:55 a.m.:** Italian Serie B Lecce vs AC Pisa 1909. (Live) FSP

**3 p.m.:** Premier League Crystal Palace vs Leeds United. (Live) USA

**3:50 p.m.:** CONCACAF Women's U-17 Championship Nicaragua vs

Trinidad & Tobago. (Live) FSP

**6:50 p.m.:** CONCACAF

Women's U-17 Championship Grenada at Costa Rica. (Live) FSP

**SOFTBALL**

**7 p.m.:** Missouri at Kentucky. (Live) SEC

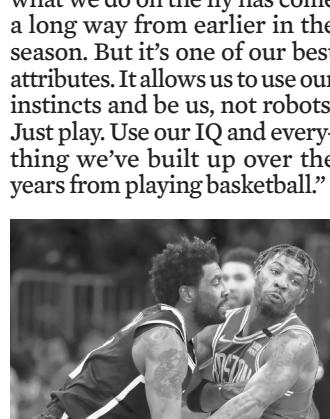
**NBA**

from Page 1

more than anything. We knew the task coming in was high against a really good team, and two of the best players to ever do this. We also knew our defense had the potential to do our best on those guys because of our size and the way we play defense together. It's definitely something that's gone the way we have planned. We've been playing good basketball this whole calendar year, so for us to keep it going, it's something we felt we could do."

The Celtics have also operated well on the fly, switching on all players, but always coming back to starting physical extra coverage of Durant off the ball.

"I think that's one of our best attributes," Smart said of adjusting to situations. "There's a lot of things I'm (Udoka) has called on the fly, and especially in a playoff game. It's loud in the building. It's hard to hear what he's calling, let alone your teammates right there. So for us to do what we do on the fly has come a long way from earlier in the season. But it's one of our best attributes. It allows us to use our instincts and be us, not robots. Just play. Use our IQ and everything we've built up over the years from playing basketball."



Celtics guard Marcus Smart, right, defends Nets guard Kyrie Irving during Game 2 on Wednesday. MICHAEL DWYER/AP

**REGIONAL DIGEST**

# UConn baseball rallies in 9th to beat Villanova

Staff reports

Casey Dana hit a sacrifice fly with the bases loaded and one out in the ninth, scoring David Smith to lift UConn (32-8, 8-1) past Villanova 2-1 in a Big East baseball game Sunday afternoon in Storrs. The Huskies won two of three in the weekend series. Smith reached on an error by second baseman Cameron Hassert to start the ninth, and T.C. Simmons was hit by a pitch from Jonathan Cole. Both advanced on a sacrifice bunt by Bryan Padilla. After Erik Stock was intentionally walked to load the bases, Dana's fly to center scored Smith. UConn's Enzo Stefanoni gave up six hits and one run in six innings, striking out two and

walking one. Brendan O'Donnell (2-1) pitched a perfect ninth for the win. Chic DeGaetano gave up three hits in five scoreless innings for the Wildcats (15-20-1, 5-7), striking out four and walking two.

**Patriots rout Yard Goats:** Six days after Yard Goats starter Karl Kauffmann threw six no-hit innings against Somerset, Jhony Brito pitched five scoreless innings of his own as the Patriots beat Hartford 9-1 in front of a third-straight sellout at Dunkin' Donuts Park in Hartford. The Patriots' first six batters reached base. Anthony Volpe scored on a wild pitch, Brandon Lockridge came around on a fielder's choice and Josh Breaux scored on an error to make it 3-0. After an inning-ending double

play, Kauffmann settled down to retire the next six Somerset batters. Blake Perkins hit a two-run double to right in the fourth to make it 5-0. An inning later, Derek Dietrich's two-run double to deep left with two outs made it 7-0. Hartford broke through in the ninth when Brenton Doyle's RBI groundout scored Coco Montes.

**Wolf Pack end season with win:** Alex Whelan and Lauri Pajuniemi scored two goals each and the Wolf Pack had a three-goal third period to pull away for a 6-3 season-ending victory over the Wilkes-Barre/Scranton Penguins. The Wolf Pack, who got back-to-back wins for the first time since March 5 and 6, finished the season 32-32-6-2. Bobby Trivigno and

Jared Tinordi also scored for the Pack.

**Perfect game for Fairfield's Jake Noviello:** Fairfield University senior Jake Noviello pitched the first perfect game in program history as he retired all 21 batters he faced in a 10-0, seven-inning victory over St. Peter's at home. It was the fourth time in program history that a Fairfield pitcher has not allowed a hit in a complete game and the first time since Joe Cizynski in 1977. The win also completed a three-game sweep for the Stags and boosts their conference record to 12-3. Noviello needed just 71 pitches to retire all 21 batters. He struck out four. Offensively, the Stags got six RBIs from Matt Bergevin.

**MEN'S BASKETBALL**

# Former UConn guard Floyd transferring to rival Providence

By Shreyas Laddha

Hartford Courant

Former UConn guard Corey Floyd Jr. announced on social media Sunday that he will transfer to Big East rival Providence. Floyd's transfer is the first intraconference transfer this offseason.

Floyd, a 6-foot-4 guard from New Jersey, entered his name in the NCAA transfer portal shortly after the end of the Huskies' season.

Floyd was a top-100 recruit in the Class of 2021. He was originally a Class of 2022 recruit, but graduated early from Roselle Catholic High and entered UConn in the fall of

2021. Floyd initially chose UConn over offers from Auburn, Florida, Providence and Villanova, among others.

The guard didn't see any playing time this past season.

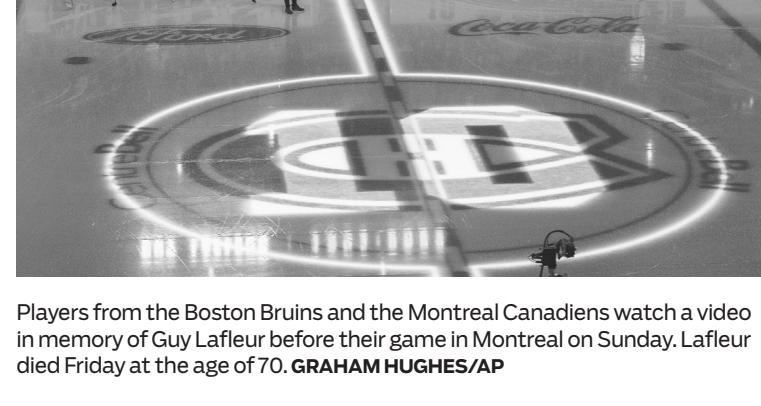
Floyd is known for his slashing and ability to shoot. He works best as the second guard on the floor.

His father, Corey Floyd Sr., played two seasons with the Friars.

UConn played Providence just once last season, a 57-53 loss at the XL Center. The second game was canceled due to COVID-19 and was never rescheduled. Both teams will play twice this upcoming season.



UConn guard Corey Floyd Jr. (14), shown with Rahsoul Diggins, announced Sunday he will transfer to Providence. JESSICA HILL/AP



Players from the Boston Bruins and the Montreal Canadiens watch a video in memory of Guy Lafleur before their game in Montreal on Sunday. Lafleur died Friday at the age of 70. GRAHAM HUGHES/AP

**Bruins**

from Page 1

an icon and someone that was, whether you were a Nordiques fan or a Montreal Canadiens fan, it didn't matter. He was an icon. He was someone who was extremely respected throughout the province and I think in Canada as well, so it didn't matter that he was on the other side of the rivalry."

While he didn't grow up watching Lafleur in his prime, he has seen plenty of old clips. A couple of things jump out to him, as they did for everyone who saw Lafleur.

"It's his speed. The first thing you notice when you watch the old footage. I was too young to really remember him live, but when you watch the old highlights, it's always the speed. You could tell his skating, even compared to the other guys on the ice at the same time, he's above average for sure," said Bergeron. "Then there's the strength of his shot as well. And obviously the hair, the flow with no helmet was a trademark. Those are the things that stood out for me."

The Canadiens, playing in their first home game since the passing of Lafleur, were holding a pre-game tribute to him Sunday.

**METS 6, DIAMONDBACKS 2**

# Megill shines as Mets beat sloppy Diamondbacks

By David Brandt

Associated Press

PHOENIX — Tyler Megill pitched 6 1/3 impressive innings, Francisco Lindor added a pair of hits and the New York Mets beat the Arizona Diamondbacks 6-2 on Sunday.

The Mets took two of three games against Arizona for their fifth straight series win to start the season, matching a franchise record set in 2018.

It was another good showing for New York's starting pitching, which came into the game with an 8-2 record and a 2.44 ERA. The right-handed Megill (3-0) gave up two runs and four hits, walking one. He struck out seven, at times overpowering the Diamondbacks with a fastball that sat in the 96-97 mph range all afternoon.

The Diamondbacks didn't do much at the plate, with one notable exception. Arizona tied it at 1 in the fourth on Christian Walker's 467-foot solo shot to left-center.

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much at the plate, with one notable exception. Arizona tied it at 1 in the fourth on Christian Walker's 467-foot solo shot to left-center.

The Mets' J.D. Davis celebrates his eighth-inning homer Sunday against the Diamondbacks with teammates Pete Alonso, left, and Mark Canha.

ROSS D. FRANKLIN/AP

ter that landed on the concourse behind the seats.

It was the second-longest homer

during New York's three-run third inning.

Mercado badly misjudged DJ LeMahieu's line drive in the second, letting it go over his head for an RBI double that also delighted fans.

LeMahieu had three hits and three RBIs, including a two-run homer in the sixth, and pinch hitter Tim Locastro pulled a two-run drive in the eighth as New York's slumping offense had its biggest day of the year. It took the Yankees 16 games this season to score at least seven runs in a game, a first for the franchise since 1990.

Straw got the loudest boos during lineup introductions, and fans pointed and jeered when he and second baseman Andrés Giménez miscommunicated on Aaron Hicks' bases-loaded popup

were due for a breakout game."

Cole covered just 1 1/3 innings in his previous start against Detroit, tying his career high with five walks. He came into the day with a 6.35 ERA through three starts.

Working with backup catcher Jose Trevino for the first time Sunday, Cole limited the Guardians to a walk and four hits. He left to a standing ovation after 92 pitches.

"I haven't been kidding when I said I think it's about to pop," Yankees manager Aaron Boone said.

Cleveland starter Aaron Civale (0-1) allowed six earned runs in three innings, pushing his ERA to 9.58 over three starts.

"On a day when he needed a little help, we didn't help out," manager Terry Francona said.

New York's J.D. Davis added a solo homer, his first of the season. Arizona's J.B. Wendelken (0-1) took the loss after giving up one run in one inning of relief.

James McCann and Starling Marte were both hit by pitches Sunday, bringing the Mets' season total to an MLB-high 14.

Mets manager Buck Showalter clarified to reporters that RHP Jacob deGrom (shoulder) actually had a CT scan on Friday instead of an MRI. A follow-up MRI is scheduled for Monday.

**Yankees**

from Page 1

Creatures lobbed plenty of insults, though, especially at Straw in center and Mercado in right.

Straw, who called Yankee Universe the "worst fan base on the planet" after Saturday's incident, was greeted by chants of "Crybaby!" and sarcastically called "Peter Parker" for his Spiderman-like climb up the wall to confront at least one fan face to face.

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**BASEBALL****AMERICAN LEAGUE**

EAST	W	L	PCT	GB	WCGB	L10	STR	HOME	AWAY
New York	10	6	.625	—	—	7-3	W-3	7-3	3-3
Toronto	10	6	.625	—	—	6-4	L-1	4-2	6-4
Tampa Bay	9	7	.563	1	—	5-5	W-2	6-4	3-3
Boston	7	9	.438	3	2	4-6	L-2	3-4	4-5
Baltimore	6	10	.375	4	3	5-5	L-1	3-3	3-7
CENTRAL	W	L	PCT	GB	WCGB	L10	STR	HOME	AWAY
Minnesota	8	8	.500	—	—	6-4	W-4	5-4	3-4
Cleveland	7	8	.467	½	1 ½	4-6	L-3	3-3	4-5
Chicago	6	9	.400	1 ½	2 ½	2-8	L-7	4-2	2-7
Detroit	6	9	.400	1 ½	2 ½	4-6	L-2	4-8	2-1
Kansas City	5	9	.357	2	3	3-7	L-4	5-5	0-4
WEST	W	L	PCT	GB	WCGB	L10	STR	HOME	AWAY
Seattle	10	6	.625	—	—	8-2	W-3	7-2	3-4
Los Angeles	9	7	.563	1	—	6-4	W-1	4-5	5-2
Oakland	9	8	.529	1 ½	½	5-5	W-1	4-3	5-5
Houston	7	8	.467	2 ½	1 ½	3-7	W-1	2-4	5-4
Texas	5	10	.333	4 ½	3 ½	4-6	L-1	1-5	4-5

**BOX SCORES****TAMPA BAY 5, BOSTON 2**

Boston	AB	R	H	BI	SO	Avg
Story 2b	4	1	1	0	0	.250
Hernandez cf	3	1	1	0	2	.180
Devers 3b	4	0	1	0	2	.265
Bogaerts dh	4	0	1	0	1	.350
Verdugo lf	4	0	1	0	0	.291
Dalbec 1b	4	0	0	0	3	.154
Arroyo ss	3	0	0	0	1	.179
c-Shaw ph	1	0	0	0	0	.000
Vazquez c	3	0	0	0	0	.189
Refsynder rf	3	0	1	0	0	.250
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Tampa Bay</b>	<b>AB</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>BI</b>	<b>SO</b>	<b>Avg</b>
Arozarena lf	4	1	2	0	1	.226
Franco ss	3	1	0	0	0	.349
Ramirez dh	1	0	1	0	0	.304
a-B.Lowe ph-dh	0	0	0	0	0	.190
Diaz 1b-3b	2	2	1	0	0	.286
Walls 3b	1	0	1	0	0	.276
b-Choi ph-1b	2	0	2	0	0	.351
Margot rf	4	0	0	1	0	.286
Brujan 2b	3	0	0	0	0	.000
Zunino c	4	0	1	0	0	.086
Kiermaier cf	4	1	0	1	0	.162
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Boston</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>000</b>	<b>000</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Tampa Bay</b>	<b>000</b>	<b>031</b>	<b>000</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>9</b>

a-flied out for Ramirez in the 5th.

b-doubled for Walls in the 5th. c-flied out for Arroyo in the 9th.

**LOB:** Boston 5, Tampa Bay 8.

2B: Story (3), Refsynder (1), Ramirez (3), Choi (4).

HR: Diaz (1), off Diekman.

RBIs: Hernandez (6), Verdugo (11), Choi (2), Margot (7), Diaz (3).

CS: Brujan (1).

**Runners left in scoring position:** Boston 2(Arroyo, Hernandez); Tampa Bay 4 (Brujan, Margot). **RISP:** Boston 2for 6; Tampa Bay 2for 8. **Runners moved up:** B.Lowe, Margot, Franco.

TOTALS 30 5 9 4 3

TOTALS 35 10 13 10 9

a-grounded out for Ramirez in the 5th.

b-singled for Miller in the 9th, E: Hedges (1).

2B: Cleveland 6, New York 6. **2B:** Judge (LeMahieu 3), Rizzo (3), Gallo (1), Torres (3), 3B: Gimenez (2).

HR: Rizzo (5), off Civale; LeMahieu (2), off McCarty; Locastro (1), off McCarty.

RBIs: Gimenez (2), Rizzo (2), Gallo (1), Kiner-Falefa (5), Locastro (2).

SF: Kiner-Falefa.

**Runners left in scoring position:** Cleveland 1(Mercado); New York 4(Kiner-Falefa, Gallo, Judge, Trevino).

RISP: Cleveland 1for 2; New York 2for 9.

GIDP: Naylor, Judge.

DP: Cleveland 1(Gimenez, Miller); New York 1(Rizzo, Kiner-Falefa, Rizzo).

TOTALS 32 2 6 2 10

TOTALS 35 10 13 10 9

a-grounded out for Pederson in the 9th.

1-ran for Ruf in the 9th. E: Crawford (2).

**LOB:** San Francisco 9, Washington 5.2B: Crawford (4), Pederson (2), Ruiz (4), C.Hernandez (4). **3B:** Belt (1).

HR: Pederson (4), off Adon; Pederson (5), off Voth; Y.Hernandez (1), off Webb.

RBIs: Pederson (3), Flores (8), Belt (2), LeMahieu (3), Rizzo (3), Estrada (10), Slater (26), Y.Hernandez (36).

SB: Thomas (1). **FP:** Pederson, Estrada.**Runners left in scoring position:** Cleveland 1(Mercado); New York 4(Kiner-Falefa, Gallo, Judge, Trevino).RISP: SF 8for 14; Was 2for 8. **Runners moved up:** Soto. **GIDP:** Y.Hernandez. **DP:** SF(Estrada, Crawford, Belt).

TOTALS 33 2 6 2 10

TOTALS 35 10 13 10 9

a-grounded out for Pederson in the 9th.

1-ran for Ruf in the 9th. E: Crawford (2).

**LOB:** San Francisco 9, Washington 5.2B: Crawford (4), Pederson (2), Ruiz (4), C.Hernandez (4). **3B:** Belt (1).

HR: Pederson (4), off Adon; Pederson (5), off Voth; Y.Hernandez (1), off Webb.

RBIs: Pederson (3), Flores (8), Belt (2), LeMahieu (3), Rizzo (3), Estrada (10), Slater (26), Y.Hernandez (36).

SB: Thomas (1). **FP:** Pederson, Estrada.**Runners left in scoring position:** SF 5 (Ruf, Dubon, 2, Gonzalez, Bart); Was 4(Franco, Soto, C.Hernandez, Ruiz).RISP: SF 8for 14; Was 2for 8. **Runners moved up:** Soto. **GIDP:** Y.Hernandez. **DP:** SF(Estrada, Crawford, Belt).

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TOTALS 35 10 13 10 9

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1-ran for Ruf in the 9th. E: Crawford (2).

**LOB:** San Francisco 9, Washington 5.2B: Crawford (4), Pederson (2), Ruiz (4), C.Hernandez (4). **3B:** Belt (1).

HR: Pederson (4), off Adon; Pederson (5), off Voth; Y.Hernandez (1), off Webb.

RBIs: Pederson (3), Flores (8), Belt (2), LeMahieu (3), Rizzo (3), Estrada (10), Slater (26), Y.Hernandez (36).

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TOTALS 33 2 6 2 10

TOTALS 35 10 13 10 9&lt;/div

# NATIONAL SPORTS REPORT

## SHORTS

### Pulisic goal gives Chelsea key victory



U.S. forward Christian Pulisic came off the bench to score in the 90th minute and earn Chelsea a 1-0 win over West Ham that consolidated third place in the Premier League on Sunday. Pulisic, who entered as part of a triple substitution by the host in the 76th minute, converted a cross from Marcos Alonso with a first-time finish off his left foot into the bottom corner at Stamford Bridge. The goal was just the second Premier League winner by an American in the 90th minute or later, the first since Fulham's Carlos Bocanegra against Tottenham on Jan. 31, 2006. It spared the blushes of Jorginho, who struck a tame penalty at West Ham goalkeeper Lukasz Fabianski in the 87th minute after his trademark hop-and-skip run-up. Craig Dawson brought down Romelu Lukaku for the penalty and was shown a red card after VAR looked at the incident to check there was contact in the area. Chelsea moved five points clear of fourth-place Arsenal, which won 4-2 at Stamford Bridge on Wednesday to intensify the fight for Champions League qualification. Chelsea has played one game more, though.

### Rublev denies Djokovic 1st title in '22



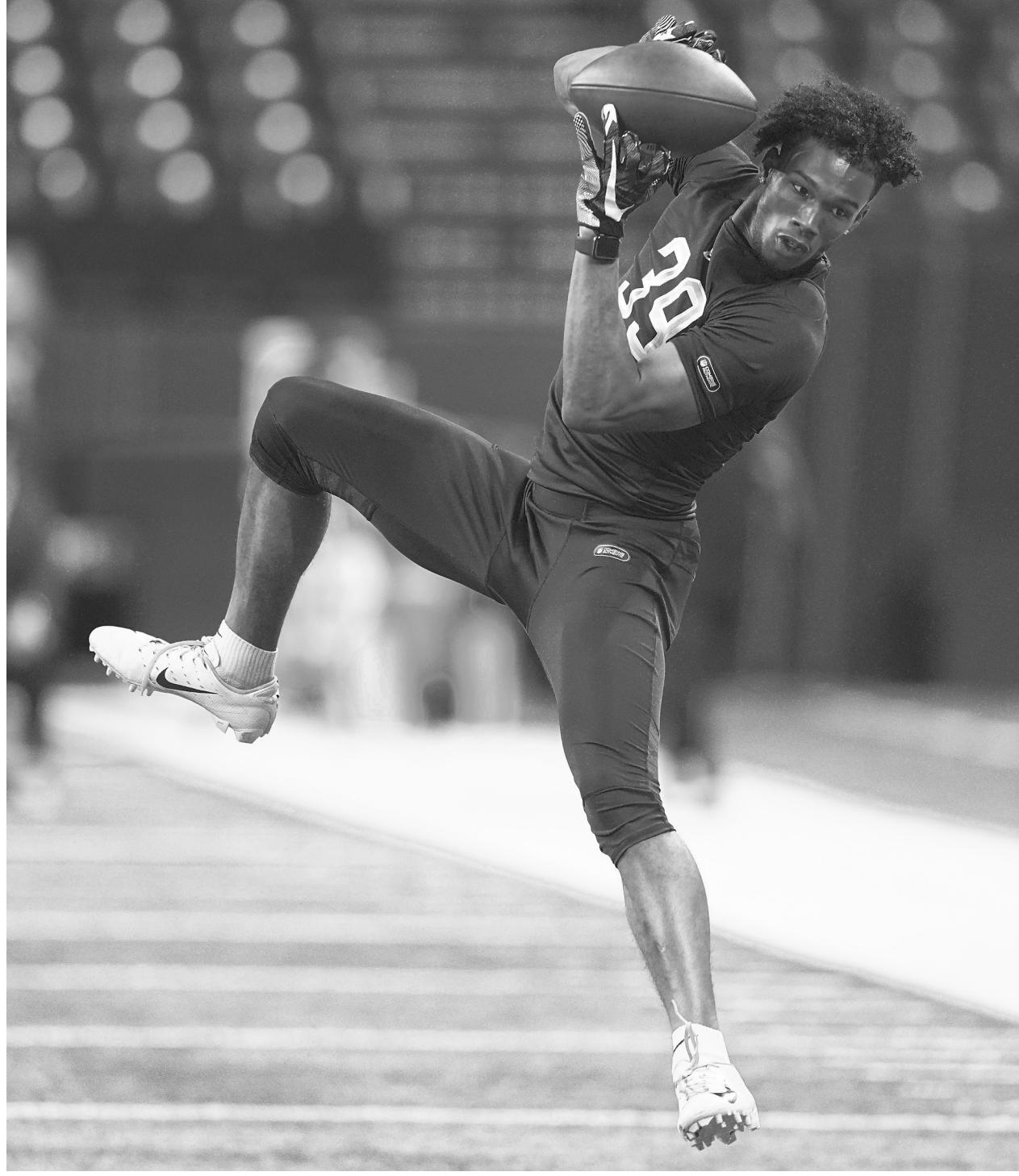
Andrey Rublev defeated Novak Djokovic 6-2, 6-7 (4), 6-0 on Sunday to win the Serbia Open in Belgrade for his third title of the season. The second-seeded Russian player dug deep to stop Djokovic from mounting another comeback as he prevented the top-ranked Serb from claiming his first title of 2022. The 24-year-old Rublev, above, looked fitter in their third set as he closed out the win in 2 hours, 24 minutes. Djokovic – who's 10 years older – appeared affected by the effort he put in to level the match in the second-set tiebreaker. Djokovic had already come back from a set down in each of his three matches at his hometown tournament. The 20-time Grand Slam champion opened his clay-court season with a surprising loss at the Monte Carlo Masters the previous week, his first match since being eliminated in the quarterfinals of the Dubai Championships in February. Dubai was his first tournament of the year after he was barred from playing at the Australian Open because of his unvaccinated status, which also prevented him from playing in the U.S. last month.

### Embiid to have surgery after playoffs



The MRI confirmed what the 76ers knew: Joel Embiid has a ligament tear in his right thumb. Ligament tears need surgery. That will come after the 76ers have completed their NBA playoff run. But for now, Embiid will continue to play with a brace or heavy tape while battling through the pain. The All-Star center thinks he injured the thumb when his hand got caught in someone's jersey during Wednesday's Game 3 of the 76ers' Eastern Conference first-round series against the Raptors. He remained in the game, and scored the game-winning 3-pointer with 0.8 seconds left. Embiid donned a brace on his right hand following Wednesday's game and during Friday's practice. He had the thumb taped during a 110-102 Game 4 loss. There were several moments when he doubled over in pain and held or shook his hand after bumping it. Embiid is averaging 26.0 points, 11.8 rebounds, and 2.3 assists while shooting 49.3% from the field, including 4 of 13 on 3-pointers. Embiid, however, wasn't his normal dominant self Saturday, perhaps due to the thumb injury.

—News services



In this week's NFL draft, Ohio State's Garrett Wilson could be the first receiver taken from a deep class. DARRON CUMMINGS/AP

## NFL DRAFT TOP OFFENSIVE PLAYERS

# See the whole field

**Weak QB class means other positions focus of attention**

**By Ralph D. Russo**  
Associated Press

Quarterbacks will not be a heavy focal point of this year's draft. Instead, guys who do the blocking and who catch the ball will take precedence on offense. This pool is particularly deep for receivers, and there will be a strong emphasis on pass protectors early on.

Top offensive players available in the NFL draft, scheduled for Thursday through Saturday:

### Quarterbacks

**Position outlook:** The 2013 draft was the last in which a QB wasn't selected in the top 10 picks. There's a distinct chance that could happen this year.

### Kenny Pickett (Pittsburgh)

**Breakdown:** Throws with good anticipation and seems to process quickly. Good athlete with a solid arm. Pickett is probably the safest bet to become a productive starter at QB. Pickett originally committed to Temple (then coached by Matt Rhule) out of high school. Rhule's Panthers select No. 6 and could use a QB.

### Matt Corral (Mississippi)

**Breakdown:** Nimble runner/passer who makes all the throws. Not very big (6-1, 212) for a player that hasn't shied away from contact. Should be gone by the middle of the second round.

### Malik Willis (Liberty)

**Breakdown:** Best athlete of this year's QB class and maybe the highest ceiling of the prospects. He has work to do with decision-making. Hipotential will lure a team into a first-round selection.

### Running backs

**Position outlook:** Could be another year without a first-round running back, though a couple could squeak in late.

### Kenneth Walker III (Michigan State)

**Breakdown:** His sharp cuts and explosiveness changing direction were the keys to ripping off long runs. He will need to run lower to challenge tacklers at the next level. He will be taken early in the second round.

### Breece Hall (Iowa State)

**Breakdown:** Gets tacklers to miss with quick stops and starts and finishes, but he doesn't explode through holes. Figures to be selected in the middle of the second round.

### Wide receivers

**Position outlook:** Could easily have a half-dozen WRs selected in the first round. With lots of good options, teams near the top of the draft could wait to see what slips to the second round.

### Garrett Wilson (Ohio State)

**Breakdown:** Highly skilled at tracking the flight of the ball. Works the sideline

adeptly with excellent footwork and has speed and precision. He could be the first WR off the board.

### Chris Olave (Ohio State)

**Breakdown:** Quickness to win off the line of scrimmage and speed to get separation in the open field. He lacks power, but is hard to cover and catches everything. Expect him to go in the middle of the first round.

### Jameson Williams (Alabama)

**Breakdown:** Dynamic speed burner who became the top deep threat in the country last season. Only one season as a starter and it ended with a torn knee ligament in the national title game. The injury could keep him on the board until the back half of the first round.

### Drake London (Southern Cal)

**Breakdown:** Enormous catch radius with long arms and good hops. Makes lots of contested catches and runs through tacklers after the catch. Top-end speed is lacking and route running needs more precision. He could go in the middle of the first round.

### Other positions

**Tight end (Trey McBride, Colorado St.); tackle (Ikeem Ekwonu, NC State; Evan Neal, Alabama; Charles Cross, Miss. St.; Trevor Penning, N. Iowa; Bernhard Raimann, C. Michigan), interior linemen (Tyler Linderbaum, Iowa; Kenyon Green, Texas A&M).**

## NBA PLAYOFFS

# Nuggets stay alive; Bucks take 3-1 lead

Associated Press

Nikola Jokic scored 37 points and fed Will Barton for a 3-pointer from the left corner with 8.3 seconds left, helping the Nuggets avoid a series sweep with a 126-121 victory over the Warriors on Sunday in Denver.

Monte Morris' 7-footer broke a 121-121 tie with 33.5 seconds left after the sixth-seeded Nuggets blew a 17-point lead. Austin Rivers then stole Otto Porter Jr.'s pass.

Morris finished with 24 points. He hit five 3-pointers in the third quarter, the most in a quarter by any player in these NBA playoffs.

Steph Curry led the third-seeded Warriors with 33 points. Klay Thompson scored 22 of his 32 after picking up his fourth foul in the final second of the first half.

The Western Conference first-round series shifts back to San Francisco for Game 5 on Wednesday night.

**Allen powers Bucks to victory:** Grayson Allen set playoff career highs with 27 points and six 3-pointers, Giannis Antetokounmpo had 32 points and 17 rebounds and the Bucks beat the Bulls 119-95 on Sunday in Chicago to take a 3-1 lead in their Eastern Conference first-round series.

Jrue Holiday scored 26, and the third-seeded Bucks made it look easy again after beating the Bulls by 30 and handing them the most lopsided home playoff loss in franchise history.

The defending NBA champs led by 22 early in the third and steadied themselves after a push by the Bulls. They'll try to wrap up the series in Milwaukee on Wednesday.

Allen delivered another huge effort off the bench, surpassing his previous postseason scoring high of 22 points in Game 3. He made 10 of 12 shots and nailed 6 of 7 3s.

Antetokounmpo had seven assists.

Holiday made five 3s. Bobby Portis added 14 points and 10 rebounds in his second straight start with Khris Middleton sidelined because of a sprained left knee, and the Bucks beat the Bulls for the 19th time in 21 games.

Zach LaVine led the sixth-seeded Bulls with 24 points and 13 assists.

**KAT comes up big:** Karl-Anthony Towns roared back from two rough games with a career playoff-best 33 points and 14 rebounds, helping the Timberwolves move past their Game 3 collapse and pull out a 119-118 victory over the Grizzlies on Saturday night in Minneapolis to even the West first-round series at 2-2.

Anthony Edwards scored 24 points and backup Jordan McLaughlin went 4-for-4 from 3-point range to pitch in 16 points as the seventh-seeded Timberwolves relentlessly attacked the basket and went 31-for-40 from the foul line.

The series shifts back to Memphis for Game 5 on Tuesday night.

Desmond Bane, who hit his eighth 3-pointer at the buzzer to finish with 34 points, and Dillon Brooks with 24 points kept the second-seeded Grizzlies going on another quiet night for star point guard Ja Morant. Morant went 4-for-13 from the floor, and had 11 points, 15 assists and eight rebounds.

## MONDAY'S GAMES

### Celtics vs. Nets

**Where, when, TV:** New York; 7 p.m. EDT; TNT.

**Bottom line:** The second-seeded Celtics can clinch the Eastern Conference first-round series after earning a 109-103 victory in Game 3 on Saturday. Jayson Tatum had 39 points in the win. Bruce Brown led the seventh-seeded Nets with 26 points.

**Top performers:** Jaylen Brown is averaging 25.0 points over the last 10 games for the Celtics. Kevin Durant is averaging 29.4 points and 7.5 rebounds over the last 10 games for the Nets.

### 76ers vs. Raptors

**Where, when, TV:** Philadelphia; 8 p.m. EDT; NBA TV.

**Bottom line:** The fourth-seeded 76ers have another chance to clinch the East first-round series after suffering a 110-102 loss in Game 4 on Saturday. Pascal Siakam had 22 points for the 76ers.

**Top performers:** Siakam is averaging 25.8 points, 8.9 rebounds and six assists over the last 10 games for the Raptors. Tyrese Maxey is averaging 21.6 points and 4.3 assists over the last 10 games for the 76ers.

### Mavericks vs. Jazz

**Where, when, TV:** Dallas; 9:30 p.m. EDT; TNT.

**Bottom line:** The Western Conference first-round is tied 2-2 after the fifth-seeded Jazz earned a 100-99 victory in Game 4 on Saturday. Jordan Clarkson had 25 points in the win. Luka Doncic, who missed the first three games of the series after suffering an injury in the regular-season finale, scored 30 points for the Mavs.

**Top performers:** Bojan Bogdanovic is averaging 19.6 points over the last 10 games for the Jazz. Jalen Brunson is averaging 16.3 points and 4.8 assists over the last 10 games for the Mavs.

## SCOREBOARD

### NBA

#### PLAYOFF SCHEDULE

**EAST FIRST ROUND**

(Best-of-7; x-if necessary)

#1 Miami 3, #8 Atlanta 1

April 17: Miami 115-91

April 22: Miami 115-105

April 22: Atlanta 111-110

Sunday: Miami 110-86

Tuesday: at Miami, 7 p.m.

x-Thursday: at Atlanta, TBD

x-Saturday: at Miami, TBD

#2 Boston 3, #7 Brooklyn 0

April 17: Boston 115-114

April 20: Boston 114-107

April 23: Boston 109-103

Monday: Brooklyn, 7 p.m.

x-Wednesday: at Boston, TBD

x-Friday: at Brooklyn, TBD

x-May 1: at Boston, TBD

#3 Milwaukee 3, #6 Chicago 1

April 17: Milwaukee 93-86

April 20: Chicago 114-109

April 22: Milwaukee 111-81

Sunday: Milwaukee 119-95

Wednesday: at Milwaukee, 8:30 p.m.

x-Thursday: at Chicago, TBD

x-May 1: at Milwaukee, TBD

#4 Philadelphia 3, #5 Toronto 1

April 16: Philadelphia 131-111

April 18: Philadelphia 112-97

April 20: Philadelphia 104-101 (OT)

April 23: Toronto 110-102

Monday: at Philadelphia, 8 p.m.

x-Thursday: at Toronto, TBD

x-April 30: at Philadelphia, TBD

**WEST FIRST ROUND**

#1 Phoenix 2, #8 New Orleans 1

April 17: Phoenix 110-99

April 19: New Orleans 125-114

April 22: Phoenix 114-111

Sunday: at New Orleans, late

Tuesday: at Phoenix, 10 p.m.

x-Thursday: at New Orleans, TBD

x-Saturday: at Phoenix, TBD

#2 Memphis 2, #7 Minnesota 2

April 16: Minnesota 130-117

April 19: Memphis 124-96

April 21: Memphis 104-95

April 23: Minnesota 119-118

Tuesday: at Memphis, 7:30 p.m.

Friday: at Minnesota, TBD

x-May 1: at Memphis, TBD

#3 Golden State 3, #6 Denver 1

April 16: Golden State 123-107

April 18: Golden State 126-106

April 21: Golden State 118-113

Sunday: Denver 126-121

Wednesday: at Golden State, 10 p.m.

x-Friday: at Denver, TBD

x-May 1: at Golden State, TBD

### AUTO RACING

#### NASCAR CUP GEICO 500

Sunday: Talladega Superspeedway, Talladega, Ala. Lap length: 2.66 miles

FPP DRIVERS M LAP PT

1 19 Ross Chastain C 188 42

2 14 Austin Dillon C 188 35

3 12 Kyle Busch T 188 39

4 5 Kyle Larson C 188 50

5 2 Martin Truex Jr T 188 45

6 16 Erik Jones C 188 37

7 28 Chase Elliott C 188 44

8 21 Michael McDowell F 188 29

9 27 Alex Bowman C 188 36

10 24 Kevin Harvick F 188 27

11 22 Ryan Blaney F 188 26

12 11 Justin Haley C 188 25

13 23 Aric Almirola F 188 28

14 33 Corey Lajoie C 188 23

15 8 William Byron C 188 39

16 6 Kurt Busch T 188 26

17 9 Bubba Wallace T 188 30

18 7 Denny Hamlin T 188 19

19 39 Landon Cassill C 188 0

20 31 Noah Gragson C 188 0

21 18 Austin Cindric F 188 16

22 1 Brad Keselowski F 187 23

23 15 Kevin Harvick F 187 14

24 36 David Ragan F 186 13

25 38 JJ Yeley F 185 0

26 37 BJ McLeod F 172 11

27 32 Todd Gilliland F 121-10

28 34 Cole Custer F 105-9

29 29 Cole Custer F 98-8

30 26 Ricky Stenhouse Jr C 95-8

31 4 Daniel Suarez C 92-6

32 13 Joey Logano F 89-a 5

33 20 Ty Dillon C 89-a 4

34 25 Harrison Burton F 89-a 3

35 35 Greg Biffle C 79-f 2

36 3 Daniel Hemric C 56-0

37 17 Chase Briscoe F 56-0 1

38 30 Chris Buescher F 56-0 1

39 10 Tyler Reddick C 31-b 1

a-accident; b-engine; f-fuel pump, d-dvp; C-Chevrolet, F-Ford, T-Toyota

**RACE STATISTICS**

Winner's average Speed: 148.637 mph.

Time: 3 hours, 21 minutes, 52 seconds.

Margin of Victory: 0.105 seconds.

Caution Flags: 6 for 28 laps.

Lead Changes: 41 among 16 drivers.

Lap Leaders: C.Bell 0-1; D.Suarez 2-3;

C.Bell 4-9; D.Suarez 10-35; C.Custer 36;

J.Logano 1-21; K.Larson 38-50; B.Wallace 51; K.Larson 52; B.Wallace 53; K.Larson 54; B.Wallace 55-60; B.McLeod 61;

K.Larson 62-64; E.Jones 65; K.Larson 66; E.Jones 67; K.Larson 68-69; E.Jones 70-73; B.Wallace 74; E.Jones 75-82;

B.McLeod 83; W.Byron 84-121; J.Yeley 122; E.Jones 123-124; Ky.Busch 125;

E.Jones 126; Ky.Busch 127-128; R.Blaney 129-151; B.Wallace 152; E.Jones 153-154; B.Wallace 155-159; C.Lajoie 160; Ku.Busch 161; D.Hamlin 162-170; K.Larson 171-176; E.Jones 177; K.Larson 178-181; E.Jones 182-183; K.Larson 184; E.Jones 185-187; R.Chastain 188

**Leaders Summary** (Driver, Times Led, Laps Led): W.Byron, 1 time for 38 laps; K.Larson, 9 times for 32 laps; D.Suarez, 2 times for 28 laps; E.Jones, 1 time for 23 laps; B.Wallace, 6 times for 15 laps; D.Hamlin, 1 time for 9 laps; C.Bell, 2 times for 7 laps; Ky.Busch, 2 times for 3 laps; B.McLeod, 2 times for 2 laps; R.Chastain, 1 time for 1 lap; C.Lajoie, 1 time for 1 lap; E.Jeley, 1 time for 1 lap; C.Custer, 1 time for 1 lap; J.Logano, 1 time for 1 lap; Ky.Busch, 1; A.Bowman, 1; R.Chastain, 1; K.Larson, 1; C.Briscoe, 1; A.Cindric, 1; D.Hamlin, 1. **Top 16 in Points:** 1. C.Elliott, 324; 2. R.Blaney, 321; 3. J.Logano, 303; 4. W.Byron, 295; 5. Ky.Busch, 273; 6. A.Bowman, 273; 7. M.Truex, 253; 8. R.Chastain, 255; 9. K.Larson, 249; 10. C.Briscoe, 245; 11. T.Reddick, 241; 12. A.Almirola, 237; 13. K.Harvick, 225; 14. A.Cindric, 222; 15. C.Bell, 220; 16. D.Suarez, 212.

### USFL

All games in Birmingham, Ala.

**NORTH** W L T PCT PF PA

New Jersey 1 0 .500 34 34

Philadelphia 1 1 0 .500 47 46

Michigan 0 2 0 .000 26 27

Pittsburgh 0 2 0 .000 26 27

**SOUTH** W L T PCT PF PA

New Orleans 2 0 0 1.000 57 50

Birmingham 2 0 0 1.000 61 52

Houston 1 1 0 .500 45 45

Tampa Bay 1 1 0 .500 20 37

**SUNDAY'S RESULT**

New Orleans 34, Tampa Bay 3

**SATURDAY'S RESULTS**

Philadelphia 30, Pittsburgh 23

Birmingham 33, Houston 28

**WEEK 3**

**SATURDAY'S GAMES**

Tampa Bay at Houston, 4 p.m.

Pittsburgh at Michigan, 8 p.m.

**SUNDAY, MAY 1**

Birmingham at New Orleans, 2:30 p.m.

New Jersey at Philadelphia, 8 p.m.

### NHL

#### ESTERN CONFERENCE

ATLANTIC GP W L OT PT GF GA

z-Florida 78 57 15 6 120 328 224

x-Toronto 79 51 21 7 109 303 248

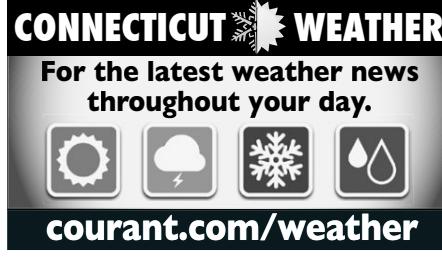
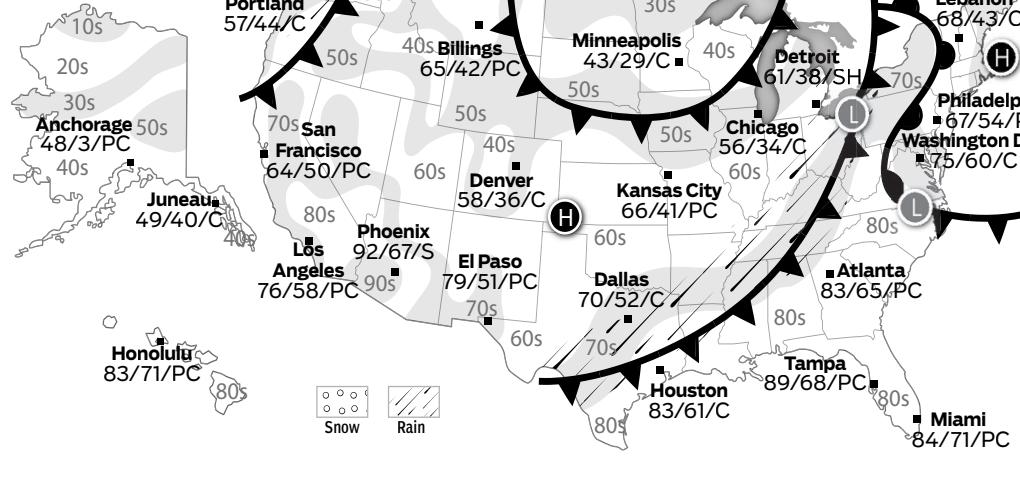
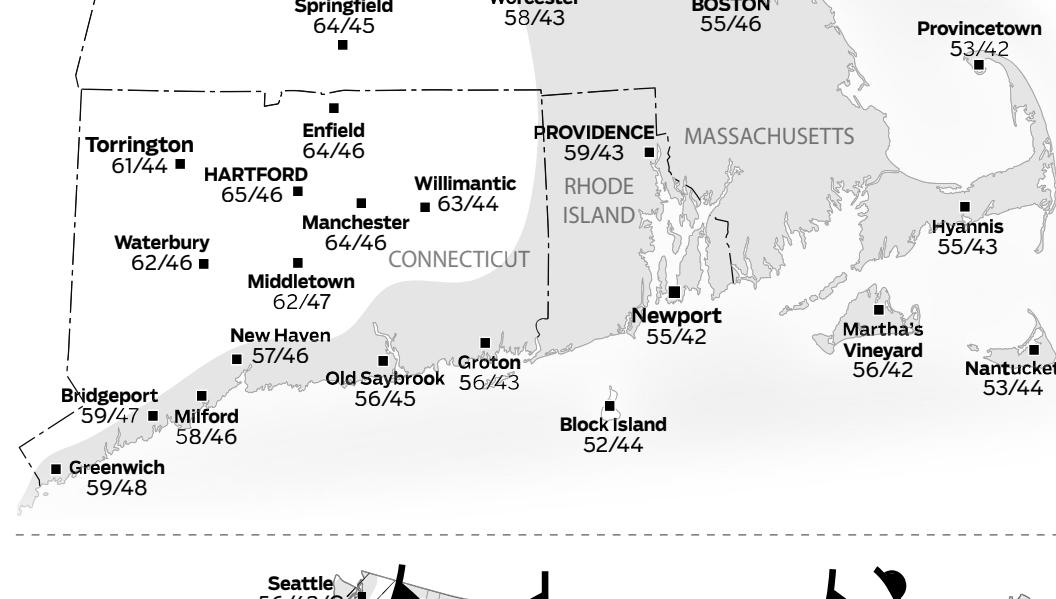
x-Tampa Bay 78 48 22 8 104 267 219

x-Boston 78 48 25 5 101 239 210

Buffalo 80 31 38 11 73

**WEATHER**

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
SUNRISE Partly sunny and seasonable. Southeast wind around 5 mph. <b>63°</b> NOON <b>46°</b> SUNSET	SUNRISE Mostly cloudy with scattered showers developing. <b>62°</b> NOON <b>48°</b> SUNSET	SUNRISE Variable cloudiness, breezy. Chance for a lingering shower early. Some frost is possible at night. <b>57°</b> NOON <b>37°</b> SUNSET	SUNRISE Partly sunny, breezy and seasonably cool. <b>56°</b> NOON <b>39°</b> SUNSET	SUNRISE Mostly sunny and comfortable. <b>63°</b> NOON <b>42°</b> SUNSET

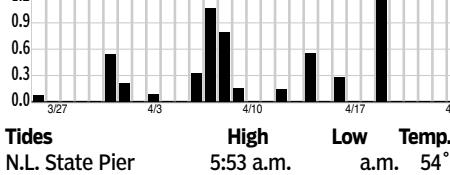
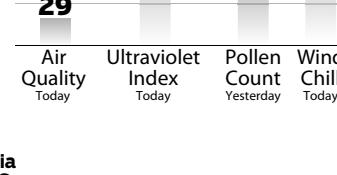
**YOURCAST****OUTLOOK**

High pressure over southeastern New England will bring partly sunny skies on Monday with high temperatures in the 60s over most of the interior portion of the state and in the 50s along the shoreline. The wind will be southeast off Long Island Sound where the water temperatures are in the lower 50s, so that's why coastal areas will be cooler. A frontal system will cause mostly cloudy skies Tuesday with showers developing and continuing into Tuesday night. A few lingering showers are possible Wednesday morning. High temperatures will be in the low 60s on Tuesday.

-Gary Lessor

**ALMANAC**

Precipitation In Inches Total Normal  
Yesterday (by 7 p.m.) 0.00 0.13  
Month to date 5.06 3.07  
Total this year 14.54 13.29  
Precipitation, temperature at Windsor Locks

**Air Quality Forecast For Today**

Tides	High	Low	Temp.
N.L. State Pier	5:53 a.m.	a.m.	54°
	6:26 p.m.	12:21 p.m.	
Saybrook Jetty	7:04 a.m.	12:41 a.m.	52°
	7:37 p.m.	1:14 p.m.	
Connecticut River	9:47 a.m.	4:27 p.m.	
at Portland	10:20 p.m.	5:00 p.m.	
Madison	7:15 a.m.	12:58 a.m.	51°
	7:50 p.m.	1:32 p.m.	
New Haven	7:35 a.m.	1:22 a.m.	51°
	8:10 p.m.	1:56 p.m.	
Stamford	7:39 a.m.	1:36 a.m.	52°
	8:14 p.m.	2:10 p.m.	

River Stage at Hartford: 7.89 feet at 4:30 p.m.

Boating L.I. Sound W L.I. Sound E B.I. Sound

Weather PCloudy PCLOUDY PCLOUDY PCLOUDY

Wind E, 5-10 E/SE, 5 NE/SE, 5

Seas 1 ft. 1 ft. 1 ft.

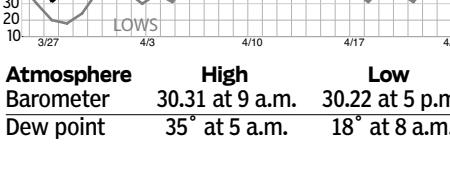
**Moon Phase**

Temperature	High	Low
Sunday	61 at 3:57 p.m.	51 at 8:02 a.m.
Normal for date	65	42
Record for date	88 in 200	27 in 1930
A year ago	73	40
Range this year	78	-2

Heating Degree Days Season Normal Last Season

For July 1 - April 24 5093 5589 5172

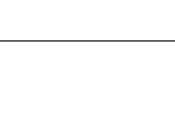
30-day Temperature History



Atmosphere High Low

Barometer 30.31 at 9 a.m. 30.22 at 5 p.m.

Dew point 35° at 5 a.m. 18° at 8 a.m.

**AROUND THE WORLD**

Today's forecast in cities not included in the maps above:

NEW ENGLAND	Baltimore	71 55 C	Nashville	69 45 SH	San Juan	83 73 PC	Budapest	68 43 SH	Kingston	86 74 T	Stockholm	57 37 PC	
Bangor	59 38 PC	Bismarck	38 20 PC	New Orleans	85 66 PC	Tucson	91 59 S	Buenos Aires	75 61 T	Lisbon	66 52 PC	Sydney	72 59 SH
Burlington	70 51 C	Boise	71 45 PC	New York	63 50 PC	Athens	79 57 C	Dubai	102 79 PC	London	57 43 C	Tel Aviv	78 59 S
Caribou	57 39 C	Buffalo	71 43 T	Okla. City	68 44 PC	Bangkok	93 82 PC	Dublin	52 41 PC	Madrid	68 48 S	Tokyo	79 59 PC
Concord	63 42 PC	Charleston	85 65 S	Omaha	58 31 PC	Amsterdam	55 41 SH	Edinburgh	52 43 C	Milan	68 50 R	Montreal	61 41 SH
Montpelier	64 44 C	Cincinnati	66 41 SH	Orlando	89 64 PC	Athens	79 57 C	Helsinki	55 27 PC	New Delhi	106 79 T	Nassau	54 45 SH
Mt. Wash.	47 36 C	Cleveland	67 41 SH	Pittsburgh	78 48 C	Barbados	84 76 SH	Hong Kong	88 77 PC	Paris	63 48 SH	Vancouver	54 41 R
Portland	53 41 PC	Indianapolis	61 36 C	Raleigh	87 62 PC	Beijing	84 61 C	Istanbul	84 72 PC	Prague	52 37 C	Warsaw	54 41 R
Woods Hole	55 42 PC	Jacksonville	86 61 PC	St. Louis	64 42 PC	Beijing	84 61 C	Malta	84 77 PC	Rome	66 50 R	Weather page produced by	

Kingston 86 74 T Stockholm 57 37 PC

Lisbon 66 52 PC Sydney 72 59 SH

London 57 43 C Tel Aviv 78 59 S

Madrid 68 48 S Tokyo 79 59 PC

Cairo 94 63 S Milan 68 50 R

Cancun 83 73 T Montreal 61 54 SH

Dubai 102 79 PC Moscow 63 50 R

Edinburgh 52 43 C New Delhi 106 79 T

Helsinki 55 27 PC Paris 63 48 SH

Hong Kong 88 77 PC Prague 52 37 C

Istanbul 66 54 PC Rio de Janeiro 81 66 R

Malta 84 77 PC Seoul 81 63 R

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